



APPROVED

APR 20 2017

By: *Carman Vega*

**Meeting:** San Antonio Independent School District - District Leadership Team  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017  
**Locations:** Burnet Center  
**Chairperson:** Mr. Pedro Martinez, Superintendent of Schools  
**Co-Chairman:** Ms. Giselle Calejo  
**Members Present/Absent:** See information at the end of the minutes

**Call to order:** DLT Meeting was called to order at 4:54p.m. by DLT Co-Chairman Ms. Giselle Calejo

#### **Review and Approval of Previous Minutes**

The January 19, 2017 minutes were reviewed and approved with one correction: “defiantly” was changed to “definitely.”

Ms. Jennifer Grimes, Hillcrest ES librarian, made a motion to amend minutes and Ms. Clarisa Cepeda, Graebner ES teacher, seconded the motion.

The January DLT minutes then were approved.

#### **Agenda # 1 Superintendent’s Updates**

Superintendent Pedro Martinez started by thanking everyone for serving as part of the District Leadership Team. He said, right now it’s testing time and schools are focused on getting ready for the next assessment. He has visited schools and has seen students preparing for the upcoming tests and being engaged in learning.

District-wide, he said, we also are getting ready for the next budget year.

Master Teachers initiative is looking to employ Master Teachers and adding Master Teachers over the next 5 years. These are experienced teachers with strong track records and may not necessarily have advanced degrees. This is the first year we launch this initiative. We are recruiting both internally and externally; however more than 80% will be internal.

Hiring will focus on using external hires to fill vacancies as part of the grant. An example Ogden will become a lab school next year with 25 interns and 25 teachers. Our goal is to have this initiative district-wide. We don’t want schools losing their talent. We’re going to use the external to fill vacancies.

Working on programs for these schools including summer and after school. So far there have been 400 applicants. Some fears include teachers not wanting to leave their school and or not wanting to leave their grade level. Plans are being put into place so teachers don’t have to worry

about leaving their school and or grade level. Flexibility is being given to the principal to use the Master Teachers to benefit the kids who need the help.

We have reconsidered not doing multi-level classrooms.

In response to a question from Ms. Andrea Greimel, teacher at Carvajal, Mr. Martinez said Master Teachers will be able to stay at their campuses and depending on the school, at their grade level. We will work with teachers. We want to make sure we leverage the Master teacher expertise.

Mr. Martinez said he wants the principal and the Master teacher to identify students who will need to come in early. The school will need a plan. He said the extra time that Master Teachers will work are 5 hours a week and mostly after school and 20 days a year mostly in summer. These summer and afterschool programs are targeted to help kids who will benefit the most. A school may focus on Algebra and have kids come to school two weeks early to build an Algebra foundation to get them ready for the school year. We are encouraging for multiple Master Teachers for school so it's not just one per school and one person has to do the heavy lifting. The district does not want to move out teachers and wants to recognize the talent of existing teachers.

## **Agenda # 2 The Instructional Model**

Ms. Theresa Salinas, Senior Director of Organizational Learning & Professional Development, provided an overview of the Instructional Model and creating a culture of excellence including the Gradual Release of Responsibility. What is it that we believe about students and how they learn best? 70% of SAISD students are At Risk of dropping out of school. What is the district model of how all the parts fit together for teaching students with an instructional model? If we engage in community dialogue we will get a lot accomplished. We are having stakeholders create models and we are consolidating these ideas to build a model and framework for how children learn best.

Ms. Salinas ended her presentation with an activity for DLT members.

**Action: No action was necessary on this item at this time.**

## **Agenda # 3 Legislative Update**

Mr. Seth Rau, Legislative Coordinator in the Governmental & Community Relations Department, provided a legislative update from Austin.

The House has introduced a bill that has been heard the last three weeks, HB 2. This bill is the first step in improving school finance. The bottom line for SAISD is the basic allotment would increase about \$210 per student, which means \$130 extra per student once everything is factored in. However, the Senate is not very interested in this because the House isn't interested in the school voucher proposal. So, the fight of the next 67 days before the session ends will be:

- Can we pass a budget because the House has over \$4 billion more in it than the Senate budget? Can they reach a compromise? The only thing the Legislature must do is pass a budget by the end of our fiscal year. The fiscal year in the state of Texas starts September 1, so a budget must be passed by August 31. The Legislative session ends May 29.

- o Another bill I want to talk about is HB 22 to change the A-F ratings system in a few ways that are good. First, they would delay the implementation until 2019-20. Legislators realized there were problems with the rollout that happened over December – January and we saw there were many issues with it.
  - a) They would move it from 5 domains to 3 domains. Instead of domain 1,2,3, 4 and 5 (Student Achievement Domain, School Program Domain and School Climate Domain)
  - b) In all three of those domains there will be non-STAAR factors, which is something we would really like to see so we can have a more whole child approach to how we look at evaluating our schools. We know test scores are important as we want to know how all our students are doing but test scores aren't everything. We think HB 22 does a good job at striking this compromise. Under the current system, Ds and Fs are going to be considered as IR for state interventions. Under this proposal there is a difference between a D and an F. D is in need of improvement and the state can't intervene in a D school. States can only intervene in F schools. We think this is very important.

Mr. Rau recognized Jenny Arredondo who came up to the legislature over spring break to testify on HB 367, which would enable us to set up food pantries in our schools.

Ms. Palacios, asked for an update on Pre-k funding as she understood Gov. Abbott was for Pre-K funding--what happened?

Mr. Rau said Pre-K funding is a sore subject this session. What happened is that two years ago, the legislature passed HB 4 unanimously, which restored state funding for high-quality Pre-K. Here in San Antonio ISD, we received a little more than one million dollars, which helped us improve the quality of our Pre-K program and redirect some of the local funds that we've been using to other priorities in the district. After disagreements with Gov. Abbott, the House defunded his Pre-K program. They decided to put the money in what they call supplemental Pre-K. That money is less money and it is set aside to go every ISD and every charter in the state that offers Pre-K. There is no grant program, no high-quality standard. We would still get some money from that but it is less than last time. The Senate wants to create a public-private partnership Pre-K. The money would still go to school districts but we must partner with private centers. Dallas ISD has started this program with Commit.

**Action: No action was necessary on this item at this time.**

#### **Agenda # 4 Announcements/Adjournment**

**Next Meeting:** Ms. Calejo said the next DLT meeting is scheduled April 20. With no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Jennifer Grimes and seconded by Cynthia Stevenson. Motion to adjourn was approved and the DLT meeting ended at 5:40pm.

Attendance Report for March 23, 2017

Present

Arredondo, Jenny  
Barnhouse, Lisa  
Boris, Ann  
Calejo, Giselle  
Castano, Brian  
Cepeda, Clarisa  
Gonzales, Tanya  
Greimel, Andrea  
Grimes, Jennifer  
Gutierrez, René  
Hardaway, Brenda  
Martinez, Pedro  
Orozco, Nicole  
Palacios, Siomara  
Parker, Shelby  
Rivers, Gregory  
Rodriguez, Guadalupe  
Sanchez, Tillie  
Stamper, Elizabeth

Stevenson, Cynthia  
Stoks, Barbara  
Thomas, Brian  
Vázquez-González, Carmen

Others Present

Flores, Irene  
Guardia, John  
Prado, Cindy  
Rau, Seth  
Uribe, Sandra

Excused Absence

Meza, Alice  
Sellers, Doug

Absent

Carreon, Dorothy  
Cruz, Maria

Ehlke, Cherin  
Elizondo, Miguel  
Flake, Natalie  
Garza, Larry  
Garza, Steven  
Hernandez, Olivia  
McClung, Cassie  
McKevitt, Larry  
Mendoza, Gabriel  
Moreno, Bianca  
Orta, Ernest  
Pastrano, Jason  
Solis, Cynthia  
Thompson, Toni  
Villalpando, Ralph  
Weber, Matthew