

**BRECKENRIDGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
2007-2008**

MINUTES:

The Breckenridge Independent School District Improvement Committee met on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, at 4:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the School Administration Building, 212 North Miller, Breckenridge, Texas.

The following committee members were present at the meeting:

Linda Sims	Dwayne Dove	Marlene Coplen
Robert Burchett	Tori Williams	Christy Finn
Tracey Blackshear	Beverly Olson	Vince Moore
Kathy Collinsworth	Jeff Fleenor	Molly Peterson
Roberta Brown		

Those absent were as follows: Connie Martin, Bryan Dieterich, Robert Burchett, Deborah Gonzales, David Brownrigg, Kendra Cornett, Hallee Pesch, Shannon Kingery, Sharon Kitchens, Derinda Holland, Susan Shortes,

Mrs. Sims welcomed the committee to the last meeting of the year.

Planning: Mrs. Sims reviewed with the committee members the calendar for the remaining school year and also looked at the 2008-2009 calendar for important dates for school start events. She explained that one day each six weeks for the first five six weeks had been set aside for extended staff development days in order for campuses to have time for mandated staff development that is required during the year. Concerns were expressed concerning this addition. Mrs. Sims explained that it was becoming increasingly difficult for campuses to comply with state requirements because the calendar does not allow time for staff development during the year. She stated that she would take their concerns to the campuses principals.

She presented the committee with the 2007-2008 District Parent Involvement Policy to review and revise. Parents and other committee members discussed the policy and suggested the addition of “donations” and “planning rewards for student achievement” under the headings for Parent Involvement as well as Staff/Parent Communication. One of the great successes this year came from the Elliott Street Church of Christ. Each Wednesday afternoon, they church is offering tutoring for any student who wishes to attend. They have provided dinner for the students and a time for fun activities as well. The church also provided lunch for the BISD staff at the beginning of school. There are plans to recognize their efforts as well at other volunteers at the May board meeting.

Budget: Roberta Brown, business manager, arrived at the end the meeting due to another appointment and stated that the budget report would have been based upon the February figures that have been reviewed.

Curriculum and Instruction: BISD has received third, fifth and eighth grade Reading TAKS results. At North Elementary 89% of the third grade students met standard with 33% receiving Commended Performance Awards. The fifth grade scores had increased from 69% in 2007 to 71% for meeting standard with 11% receiving Commended Performance. Eighth grade students who were required to meet standards for the first time this year scored 98% with 48% receiving Commended Performance Awards. Students who did not meet standards will be given two more opportunities to take the test and receive passing grades. Mrs. Sims stated that she expected the percentage of those meeting standard to rise.

First grade students have had the opportunity to be involved in a program called Reading Recovery for many years. BISD has been a part of a regional cooperative. Because of rising cost, many of the other districts have pulled out of the coop for other programs. The cost for BISD and the few remaining renders the program not cost effective. Therefore, the coop has dissolved, and the program can no longer be offered as Reading Recovery. The skills and techniques will still be used to help students with reading difficulties; however, the teachers will not have access to training opportunities or updates.

Special State and Federal Program Information Update: BISD received an additional \$2566 on the Perkins Grant. The funds now total \$23,339. The money may be used to purchase computers and small appliances such as mixers and microwave ovens in the hopes of adding a culinary program.

Staffing Patterns: Changes for 2008-2009 will include Brent Evans being assigned as principal over South Elementary as well as Junior High. He will interview and recommend two full time assistant principals, one for each campus, to assist him. He will focus on student achievement and classroom instruction on the two campuses. Discipline and student/teacher issues will be the responsibilities of the assistant principals.

Other changes will be addressed as they arise.

Staff Development: The staff has just completed a needs assessment to identify topics for staff development this summer. Teachers must attend three days of staff development each summer to receive comp-time for days during the school year. Teachers have requested workshops from the following categories: technology, instructional strategies, TEKS remediation strategies, training for working with special needs students, and special classes such as PE, Fine Arts, and Library have requested workshops to address their needs. CPR/First Aide/AED, Gifted and Talented and Special Education are trainings that are required each year.

School Organization: Student enrollment for April 1, 2008, was at 1577 which is down 61 students compared to April 2, 2007, when enrollment was 1638.

District Technology: Dwayne Dove, District Technology Director, informed the committee that BISD was ahead of most districts in the area of technology. A tower has been erected on the BHS campus that will enable us to provide wireless technology. The district has added Smartboard technology to Junior High, South and North Elementary. Lower elementary levels are requesting Promethean Boards rather than Smartboards because they provide more resources to elementary classrooms. If they choose Promethean over Smartboards, those Smartboards that are currently being used at the elementary level will be relocated at Junior High and High School.

Formative Evaluation: Mrs. Sims and the committee conducted a formative evaluation of the District Improvement Plan.

Needs Assessment: Following the completion of the Discussion and Action topics, the committee participated in a needs assessment exercise to identify areas of needed improvement for the district. Committee members discussed and identified several needs including: new facilities, more rooms district-wide, summer credit program for juniors and seniors, and a district-wide aligned system. There was discussion of more high school credits being offered at the Junior High level to allow students flexibility to choose electives due to the new 4x4 requirements.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.