

BRECKENRIDGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
2005-2006

MINUTES:

The Breckenridge Independent School District Improvement Committee met on Wednesday, February 22, 2006, 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:

Connie Martin	Linda Sims	Roberta Brown
Joe Bob Jackson	Leslie Blackerby	Kathey Collinsworth
Bryan Dieterich	Marjorie Thompson	Rebecca Blackman
Cindy Creager	Brent Evans	Stephanie Russell
Lela Russell	Dwayne Dove	Robert Burchett
Dovie Olaves	Pat Renchler	Lisa Schwandner
Martye Underwood		

Those not present were as follows: Kathy McCullough, Mark Wilcox, Lilas Davis

Welcome: Mrs. Connie Martin, District Superintendent, brought the meeting to order and welcomed members.

Planning: The committee reviewed and discussed the proposed 2006-2007 calendar. Other district calendars were considered to assure that the proposed BISD calendar would be aligned with other schools in our district and area. The committee members were to share the proposed calendar with members of their prospective groups. The district is filing for a waiver to begin school prior to the week of August 21, 2006. Notice of the intent to file was announced in the Breckenridge American on three different occasions.

Mrs. Sims presented the District Emergency Operation Plan that had been approved by the Board of Trustees on Monday, February 13, 2006. According to Senate Bill 11, the district's basic plan had to be in place by March 1, 2006.

Budget: Roberta Brown, BISD Business Manager, reviewed current budget information with the committee. She explained that most of State and Federal entitlements have been received. The district personnel are completing their budgets for the upcoming year. A review of those budgets will be the next step in the budget process.

Curriculum and Instruction: The committee was given an update on the school finance situation. The Governor will be calling another special session to try and arrive at a decision that will address the school funding issues.

This week BISD children in grades 3-11 have been taking TAKS Test in various subject areas. The students, teachers and administrators are to be commended on their efforts in preparing for the test.

For the past several years grades K-1 have taken the Metropolitan Exam. Kindergarten has taken the test for three consecutive years. District policy does not allow our district to administer any one standardized achievement test for more than three years in a row. Principals and counselors had to decide which assessment instrument would replace the MET for the 2005-2006 school year. After contacting other districts, the decision was made to use the RPTE for reading and for this year only, use "Test Ready" for mathematics. This summer district personnel will develop a test for mathematics. This will allow us to make sure state objectives, TEKS, are being tested and it would also allow us to develop a test that is TAKS formatted unlike the MET, which is not a Texas test, meaning that it is not necessarily aligned with the TEKS, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

The Odyssey program is in place at the High School, Jr. High and soon to be at DAEP. Because the program has a component for GED, Mrs. Jiminez, the GED teacher has been invited to use it with her students. This credit recovery program is something that the district has needed, and we feel it will address the needs of many of our at-risk students.

State and Federal Programs: The district has applied for the Hurricane Emergency Impact Grant. We are currently in phase two of that application. This grant assists districts who have registered student evacuees within the district. BISD has had six students enrolled at different times who may meet the criteria.

We received a \$2403 increase in vocational funding from the Carl Perkins grant. This will be used for vocational materials.

Staffing Patterns: The Superintendent, Director of Instruction, Business Manager and Campus Administrators are reviewing district and campus personnel needs for the 2006-2007 school year. We anticipate that we will lose some personnel due to retirement, certification issues, and program deletions. Adding needed programs will require new personnel as well as replacing positions due to retiring staff.

Staff Development: All district teachers, aides and administrators have completed a needs assessment identifying summer staff development needs. Mrs. Sims will begin to prepare summer workshops offerings to meet as many of those needs as possible. The areas that were most requested included technology, discipline, conflict resolution, working with special needs students, CPR/AED and health issues. We will utilize district personnel who have been trained as well as Region 14 consultant to present trainings.

Breckenridge ISD has been chosen to facilitate Region 14 third annual Road Show. Dr. Chuck Jackson will be the keynote speaker. This will kick off teacher in-service for 2006-2007.

School Organization: Student enrollment for February 1, 2006, was 1635 which is an increase of 52 students from February 1, 2005. All campuses are experiencing a large number of student absences, mostly due to illness; however, High School is seeing an increase in the number of drop-outs. This increase, if not resolved, will greatly effect the district's AYP, Adequate Yearly Progress, status issued by the Federal Government's No Child Left Behind Act.

Technology: Dwayne Dove, District Technology Director, informed the committee that Scott Keating was hired as the new technology department assistant, replacing Jan Loggains who left before the Christmas break. Scott brings 10 years of computer and network experience to the district, and has already made an impact on the number of problems we are able to solve.

Mr. Dove told the committee that BISD had participated in the Region 14 RUS II grant. BISD will receive 3 Dual monitor portable video conferencing systems, and some video equipment. We should receive this equipment by late spring. High school, junior high, and south elementary will each receive one system.

E-RATE Update: We applied for \$71,388.96 in E-Rate/USAC funding for the 2006-2007 School Year (E-Rate Year 9). We were able to use sibling matching to raise our free and reduced meal counts and that brought our discount rate up from 76% to 79%. Based on that discount percent, E-Rate will fund 56,748.02 for our telecommunications. We apply for E-rate every year to help pay for local phone service, long distance, Internet access, and cell phones. We did not apply for any internal connections this year.

Formative Evaluation: The committee conducted a formative evaluation of the District Improvement Plan to complete the agenda. The committee was encouraged to ask questions, make comments, or suggestions.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.