

BRECKENRIDGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE  
2010-2011

MINUTES:

The Breckenridge Independent School District Improvement Committee met on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 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:

Linda Sims	Bryan Dieterich	Claudia Yeager
Charles Best	Katherine Mauldin	Cindy Cargal
Jennifer Herrington	Shelly Crenshaw,	Jennifer McKay
Virgil Moore	Stacey Donaldson	Cassie Griffith
Arron Lewis	Danny Freeman	

Those not present were as follows: Jennings Teel, Dwayne Dove, Leslie Harris, Marjorie Thompson, Lee Garner, Susan Moore, Abby Moore, Jan Loggains, Cory Boles,

**Welcome and Committee Training:** Mrs. Linda Sims, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, brought the meeting to order and welcomed members.

**Planning:** Each year the committee has been involved in revising the District Parent Involvement Policy. Each member was given a copy of the policy to review. Committee members provided suggestions for changes the policy.

**Curriculum and Instruction:** Committee members were presented a document containing current information concerning the new STAAR Test that will be implemented in 2010-2011 school year. Texas schools are transitioning from the TAKS, Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills to the STAAR Assessment. Mrs. Sims shared information concerning the grade levels and the test associated with each grade level. Though the STAAR is expected to be much more rigorous for all students, at the elementary and junior high levels, will new assessment will test the same areas at the same grade levels as the TAKS. However, the high school will be moving to the End of Course, EOC, testing. Students will no longer be tested over multilevel material but will be assessed on current course materials. There will be a total of twelve EOCs for secondary students in the areas of Math, Science, History, and ELA. It is expected that the Social Studies exam throughout the grade levels will be much more rigorous than previous testing instruments for that subject.

The STAAR assessment, as with the TAKS, is based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, TEKS, as well as college standards and ELP standards. All are required to be taught in Texas public schools from K-12. Teachers are to provide instruction in the TEKS and students are required to show mastery of those objectives as measured with the

state assessment. With the STAAR, the TEKS will be divided into three categories. Readiness Standards, are current grade readiness TEKS meant to be taught at the greatest depth and complexity, Supporting Standards, which will reinforce learning and prepare students for future learning and Process Standards that will teach processes and tools which will be built into the other standards.

Mrs. Sims noted that there will be assessments for students with disabilities; however, they will be somewhat different than we have had with the TAKS. The No Child Left Behind bill of 2001 requires **all** students to pass the appropriate assessment in 2014. In summary, information at this point is limited. There is much to be determined by TEA during the upcoming year. We will inform teachers, students and parents as more information becomes available.

**State and Federal Programs:** The committee received a Title I, Part A program overview and were asked to provide input on the use of Title I funds. The three elementary campuses are Title I, school-wide campuses. Most of the funding will be used in payroll for Title I teacher's salaries. The funds will also be expended for district homeless, parent involvement activities, and campus supplies and materials. Suggestions for use of funds were welcomed.

**Staff Development:** The committee looked at areas where staff development is needed for the summer workshops. The district identified areas are Response to Intervention, RTI, STAAR Testing, C-Scope and Technology. In preparation for the summer events, workshops will be planned to address each area of need. The ESC 14 Region Service Center, district personnel, as well as outside consultants may be utilized to provide summer workshops.

**School Organization:** Student enrollment for May 2, 2011, was 1529 which is down 7 students as compared to May 3, 2010, when enrollment was 1536. The district is concerned about dropping enrollment and is working to prevent any further drop.

**Complete Needs Assessment:** Each year the district does a comprehensive needs assessment to determine areas that the district and campuses might improve their performance and provide students with a better educational opportunity. The committee was asked to complete a questionnaire concerning their vision for the district. They were to identify strengths and weaknesses in student achievement, programs, discipline and environment. They were also asked to provide suggestions for improvement.

**Adjournment:** Mrs. Sims thanked the committee for their dedication and accomplishments for the school year. She asked the committee to complete their needs assessment questionnaire and be dismissed for a great summer.

**Planning:** The committee was presented with a sample calendar for 2011 – 2012. Mrs. Sims walked them through the calendar and asked for questions and comments. Each member will share the sample with their campus, parents and community to get input. The committee will meet again next month to discuss issues. The calendar will be finalized this spring once we are sure that all the changes from the state are in place.

**Budget:** Mr. Teel spoke to the committee about the uncertainties of school finance that will touch every school district in the state next year. He informed the group that we will be proactive in putting a plan together to help our district carry on with educating students and meeting our goals whatever decisions the Legislature makes during the current session. The next two years will be tough, but BISD will make it through and do whatever is necessary to continue our mission and meet our goals.

**Curriculum and Instruction:** The committee looked at the AEIS to become familiar with data presented on the report. There was a discussion of some of the items in the testing section, student information and staff information sections. A more in-depth look will occur as the year progresses. The district committee is responsible for providing input on the 2011-2012 district plan based on available data, some of which the AEIS report will be able to provide. Gold Performance Acknowledgements were also discussed. The District and Junior High both received three awards and High School received two.

Junior High Principal, Lee Garner, presented information about the Blue Ribbon Nomination that the Junior High received from TEA. He explained that this was the highest honor a campus could receive. Breckenridge Junior High was one of twenty-six schools selected. They had to complete an application and will be recognized at the Mid-Winter Conference next week in Austin. Should they receive the award, Mr. Teel and representatives from the Junior High will go to Washington D.C. for the award presentation. This is a very exciting time for that campus and for our district.

We have learned that one of our dyslexia teachers will be retiring at the end of this year. She has served the elementary students in grades 2 – 6. The district will send someone to the Scottish Rite training this summer in Lubbock. She will be required to participate in three weeks of training this summer and two weeks of training next summer.

A dual language committee recently traveled to Joshua ISD to observe a dual language campus. Our program will be moving to the fourth grade at South Elementary next year. The organizational arrangement at South is different from the North and East campuses. One of the primary goals for the trip was to learn how to transition the program from a self-contained arrangement to one that is departmentalized. The team returned with good information and ideas on implementing that program at South as well as techniques and strategies that can be utilized at all grade level dual language classrooms. Networking with Joshua teachers was a valuable experience for the teachers from both districts.

**Special State and Federal Program Information:** USDE and the State discontinued several federal and state programs for 2010-2011. These programs provided funding to

the district to meet mandates from TEA and USDE. Due to the predicted legislative cuts, we anticipate more cuts in state and federal program funding for the next two years.

**Staffing Patterns:** The district will be reviewing staffing patterns to assure that the school program is efficient and promotes student achievement.

**Staff Development:** The campuses are involved in conducting comprehensive needs assessment for their campus. The needs assessment is based on data from the district and campus and assesses leadership, academics, school climate, culture, discipline, safety, programs and parent involvement. The campus budget and campus improvement plan will reflect those needs that are identified through the assessment. Other staff development is continuously taking place. The topics are addressing issues such as bullying, testing, disaggregation of testing data, test security, dating violence, drug, alcohol and tobacco use, curriculum, and discipline.

**School Organization:** Student enrollment for January 3, 2011 was 1534, which is down 18 students from January 4, 2010, when enrollment was 1552.

**Technology:** Mr. Dove reported that new Smartboards, projectors and document cameras had been installed at South Elementary. High School has received a grant that will allow them to provide “Netbooks” for Junior High and High School students. Mr. Dove is concerned that state technology funds may also be cut due to the legislative efforts to balance the state budget by cutting school funding.

**Formative Evaluation:** The committee reviewed activities that had been addressed or are being addressed in preparation for the upcoming TAKS Test. The campuses are conducting staff development on the following topics which are required in the District Improvement Plan: bullying, dating violence, drug, alcohol and tobacco use, and TAKS Testing requirements that pertain to security and testing procedures. The plan called for adding more Smartboards and CPS systems in classrooms as previously discussed.

**Adjournment:**