

Minutes IC Meeting September 19, 2019

Meeting attendance: Annette Acevedo, Kinasha Brown, Kyle Bunker, Jen Bury, Sandra Citron, Jamie Crosen, Jesus Diaz Pena, Donald Donner, Carl Draeger, Caitlyn Druger, Melissa El-Helo, Corina Garcia, Elisabet Garcia, Darlene Guyett, Cynthia Hernandez, Lisa Jackson, Ramiro Juarez, Dawn McCusker, Jen Menke, Jen Misek, Craig Pflueger, Brittany Priest, Martha Renteria, Lori Rosengarten, Kim Rudden, Don Selusnik, Farrah Stephen, Darlynn Terry, Isabel Torres

Absent: Joyce Juenger

Guests/Observers:

Approval of May Minutes: Motion to approve May minutes. 18 approved, none opposed, and 2 abstained.

Action Item:

- None

Initial Presentations

- None

Informational Updates

Dual Credit Update

- Council viewed PowerPoint presentation.
- What is Dual Credit? Students will receive credit from two institutions, high school and Elgin Community College.
- Full time Dual Credit
 - Student is enrolled full time at Elgin Community College.
 - Students do not attend their high school.
 - Students are enrolled in 12-16 credit hours per semester.
 - Students will graduate with an Associates of Arts or an Associates of Science.
 - Students will need to provide their own transportation to Elgin Community College.
 - School District U46 will pay the students tuition and students will be responsible for paying for their books.
- In High School Dual Credit
 - This option is new for the 20-21 school year.
 - Approved U-46 teachers will teach the class using the ECC curriculum.
 - After successfully completing the class, students will receive a high school credit and an Elgin Community College credit.

Questions:

- Comment: If this is a cost saving for our students, then we should be aware that many of our students who meet the academic requirements could be economically disadvantaged. With that

being said it is unfortunate that they cannot partake in this wonderful program due to lack of transportation. This is supposed to be cost efficient and our economically disadvantaged students are the ones who need this program the most.

- Are dual credit students aware of the TRIO program? Do they qualify?
 - I don't think any of our current students are participating in the program. We can certainly mention this to them, when we meet with them.
- Is the associate's degree only in arts or science?
 - Right now, they cannot get the applied arts degree.
- How does it work with sports?
 - Students will have to work with their coach and the same eligibility rules will still apply.
- Do students have to maintain a certain GPA or grades?
 - Yes. A 2.0 or better. ECC also has an early alert system. ECC would alert us if a student is not doing well.
- Free and reduce cost support for books and fees?
 - We have been looking into this since the beginning, I don't have an answer right now.
- How are students and families made aware of this opportunity?
 - All students who have an unweighted grade of 3.0 will be receiving a letter about an informational night.
- Are we working with kids filling out FAFSA?
 - Current high school students cannot fill out FAFSA.
- Has there been any consideration about informing students of these options as they are incoming Freshman?
 - This will be a part of the pathway conversations.
- How many students do you currently have enrolled in the full-time dual credit program?
 - 47 students.
- Is the goal to increase from 50?
 - No. For right now the full-time dual credit is 50. For our in-house dual credit that is where we could have an opportunity to grow.
- Do you have numbers set for the in house?
 - Right now, we have board approval for 10 sections.
- Could a process be created for principals to be informed about the students grades and maybe principals could meet with them as well?
 - We are going to invite the counselors to come out on Friday's we could also include principals.
- How will this look within the building for the academic courses?
 - We are dependent on what the teachers qualify to teach.
- How soon will you be able to create something to grow teachers to teach these courses?
 - This is in the works.
- Can students get their daily announcements?
 - They do get them and we have them check their school websites as well.
- If you only offer a class at one HS could a student at another HS travel to that location?
 - Probably not the first year. We would see how it goes the first year.
- Is dual credit replacing AP courses?
 - No. Students would have to choose.

- Is the district going to be paying teacher to get certified?
 - I don't know. I can't answer that question.

Other

How to be a good committee member

- Council reviewed information on how to be a good committee member.
- Council broke out into groups to discuss what members need to do before, during and after a meeting.

Procedures, Curriculum Cycle and Roberts Rules

- Council reviewed the use of the Carl Channel, a document used by council members to type their questions for presenters.
- Council reviewed Roberts Rules.
- Council reviewed all the stages of the curriculum cycle.

Questions:

- Can members of Instructional Council also participate on curriculum committees?
 - Yes.

Grants

- The council received information on federal and state grants used in the district. They reviewed the District Consolidated Plan and the following grants:
 - Title I
 - Title II
 - Title III
 - Title IV
 - IDEA
 - 21st Century grants
 - Early Childhood
 - CTEi

Questions:

- Comment: Title I: Lack of transparency.
- Title I: Can I buy instructional materials in Spanish for my school?
 - Yes, but they have to be budgeted.
- Comment: Title I: As a principal I share how I think the title I funds should be spent. Teachers also have the option to ask for novels and field trips. One of the reasons the budget cannot be shown is because it shows peoples names and their salaries.
- CTEi: Were you part of Explore? It was a great event.
 - Yes.
- Early Childhood: How can we find a way to make the transition from PK to all day Kindergarten go a bit more smoothly?
 - We have ongoing meetings and discussions on this topic. We do have a Kindergarten transition facilitator. Pre-school staff does go into buildings the first week of school to help in the Kindergarten classrooms. We have also digitized our transitions cards. There is always room for growth and improvement.

Summary Statements

- The Instructional Council received training on “How to be a good committee member?”.
- The Instructional Council received an update on Dual Credit opportunities
- The Instructional Council received training on the IC Procedures, Curriculum Cycle and Roberts Rules
- The Instructional Council received an overview of the District Consolidated Plan, Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, IDEA and 21st Century grants.
- The Instructional Council received an overview of Early Childhood and CTEi grants