

**RUFUS CAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
AND
PROJECT CHRYSALIS MIDDLE SCHOOL**
4528 LEE LAND STREET
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77023
TEL. 713-924-1700 FAX 713-924-1704

Shared Decision Making Committee
Monday, January 23, 2018
Meeting Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Current District Budget Shortfall
- III. Q and A
- IV. Closure

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Shared Decision Making Committee
January 23, 2018
Meeting Minutes

The Cage Elementary and Project Chrysalis MS Shared Decision Making Committee met on Monday, January 23, 2018. The members present were Ms. Leos, Ms. Mendoza, Ms. Contreras, Ms. Barrera, Ms. Perez, Ms. Brooks, Mr. De La Rosa, Mr. Stott, Ms. Mitchison, Dr. Covarrubia, Dr. Rodriguez, Ms. Freitag, Ms. Villanueva, Mr. Gallardo, Ms. Melliza, Mr. Prough, Ms. Kubos, Ms. Barrera, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Ochoa-Hernandez and Ms. Aguilar.

Dr. Covarrubia welcomed all members of the Shared Decision Making Committee and other faculty and staff members that chose to attend the meeting.

State of District Budget:

Dr. Covarrubia began the meeting by reviewing the communications that had gone out by the District Superintendent beginning Friday evening about the District budget. He gave everyone a copy of the email that was sent by Superintendent Carranza and a copy of the Houston Chronicle article outlining the proposed budget cuts.

Dr. Covarrubia explained the change from a decentralized to a centralized system. He noted that he has worked under both systems and that in a centralized system about 98% of the decisions are made at central administration.

He also communicated the way the current budget is determined. He explained PUA and the refined units (a handout of the PUA refined units was given the SDMC members). He then explained the FTE model and how the number of employees is determined by the number of students. For example: If our enrollment at Cage is 514, we would divide 514 by 22 giving us a total of 23.3 teachers. He also did the same for the Chrysalis enrollment of 262 divided by 30 giving us a total of 8.6 teachers. The loss of teachers to Cage would be 10 and the loss for Chrysalis would be 7. The SDMC was very concerned that the academic progress students will make with less teachers.

Dr. Covarrubia explained that 44% of the budget cuts have to come from the schools. If we were to just cut 44% of the budget it would be over \$900,000 for Cage and over \$500,000 for Chrysalis.

He explained that we need to focus on making the school a specialized campus and the discussion focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM). Each member was to discuss this option with their teams and give Dr. Covarrubia feedback.

The SDMC also discussed the possibility of merging both Cage and Project Chrysalis and become a K-8 school with the focus on STEAM. Pros and Cons were discussed before ending the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.