

**Ortiz Middle School  
SDMC Meeting  
October 18, 2017**

**MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance**

S. Dominguez, Principal  
T. Garcia, Chairperson  
R. Denson, Teacher  
M. Gutierrez, Teacher  
E. Hart, Teacher  
D. Williams, Teacher

E. Mayo, School-based staff  
A. Benitez, Non-instructional staff  
J. Espindola, Parent  
N. Johnson, Parent  
D. Steen, Non-member

The meeting began at approximately 3:40 p.m.

**Welcome**

Mr. Dominguez opened the meeting by welcoming all members and explained the purpose of SDMC as an advisory committee to the principal. Today's meeting is open to the public because one of the topics to be addressed is the school accountability data, the purpose of which is to explain the progress of the campus.

**Reading and Approval of the Minutes**

Ms. T. Garcia read the minutes from the September 25, 2017 meeting and they were approved as written.

**Accountability Report (handouts)**

Mr. Dominguez explained the PEIMS Report, ELL Report, Accountability Summary/Performance Index Report to the members, noting that the data is for the 2016-2017 school year.

PEIMS Report - Mr. Dominguez explained that funding is based on student enrollment and that our current enrollment of 1060 is lower than expected, possibly due to Hurricane Harvey and a new charter school that has opened in our community.

ELL Report – Mr. Dominguez stated that a large portion of our students (369) speak Spanish at home according to the home language survey, which affects our reading and writing scores. He further explained that students may have social language skills but lack academic language skills needed to be successful in school. Instructional interventions have begun on campus. Students have been identified by data from Renaissance360, a new districtwide program that tiers students based on their assessment. Interventions include pull-outs based on specific TEKS, after-school labs using Achieve 3000, and after-school tutorials for reading and math. Students will be re-assessed every four weeks to determine progress. Saturday tutorials will begin in November. Budgeting is a major constraint to our intervention programs.

Accountability Summary/Performance Index Report – Mr. Dominguez explained the Performance Index Report on the 2017 Accountability Summary, noting that we met all four indices: Student Achievement 62/60, Student Progress (40/30), Closing Performance Gaps (32/26), and Postsecondary Readiness

(26/13). We also achieved Distinction Designation in two areas: Academic Achievement in Mathematics and Top 25 Percent Student Progress.

### **IB Update**

Ms. T. Garcia, IB Coordinator, gave an update on the school's progress toward becoming an International Baccalaureate World School. We are expecting an IB team to visit the campus November 2-3, 2017 to verify that we have systems in place to support the IB program and that teaching and learning through the IB program is evident. The school had a mock visit, during which time IB-trained HISD staff members came and conducted teacher interviews to determine our readiness for the actual visit. Feedback was shared with all teachers.

Mr. Dominguez then explained why the school is seeking IB status. He mentioned that several schools in HISD have been IB for almost 20 years so the IB program is not something that will just come and go. We are trying to establish a self-sustained program so that it becomes a long-lasting system for the school.

### **Parent Involvement**

Ms. N. Johnson stated she has a desire to increase our PTO. She provided information to the committee from PTOToday, which included information about a Family Tech Night and a School Volunteer Form. Discussion included some ideas to help improve parent involvement, such as hosting a Volunteer Night, having a volunteer table set up at school events, having an Academic Pep Rally, and adding a parent volunteer form to the enrollment packets and magnet application packets that go home with students. Mr. Dominguez made a clarification between seeking to increase parent volunteers on campus and seeking to increase parent involvement. Volunteering is having parents help with school events and chaperoning field trips; parent involvement means providing service to parents such as educating them in ways they can help their students be academically successful. He mentioned that he volunteered our campus to become a wraparound school, which means we may receive funding for an on-site social worker, who would be able to work directly with families and direct them to needed services. Mr. Dominguez conceded that we have done things in the past but have not been consistent in our efforts to increase parent involvement. He asked the committee to submit proposals for consideration. Ms. A. Benitez stated that she will take the VIPS training to learn the process of having parents cleared by HISD to volunteer on campus. Other ideas included posting information about volunteering on the front office slideshow, sending an email to all teachers asking them to encourage parents to be involved in school, and providing information in the three languages spoken by our community.

### **Other Issues/Concerns**

Due to time constraints, a motion was made by Ms. Gutierrez to table other issues/concerns brought up to the committee for discussion until our next meeting. Ms. Hart seconded and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.