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**North Texas Regional P-16 Council Meeting Minutes  
December 3, 2013  
Education Service Center Region 10  
904 Abrams Rd.  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972-348-1750**

**North Texas Regional P-16 Council Meeting Minutes**

**Present: Council members and guests**

Judith Allen, Teresa Brock, Stacy Burrell, V. Barbara Bush, Ray de los Santos, Denise Devora, Joel Durbin, Deborah Endres, Emily Furney, Lanet Greenhaw, Mary Harris, Raul Hinojosa, Katie Kroh, Brooke Ingersoll, Linda K. Johnson, Chris Kanouse, Jean Keller, Barbara Lerner, Mona Lincoln, Mike Mattingly, Chuck McCarter, Jeffrey Miller, Amy Mougey, Anita Perry, Don Perry, Rafaela Schwan, Jacqueline Vega, Mary Villafranca, MeShelley White, Kathy Wright-Chapman

**A. Welcome and Introductions**

Jean Keller thanked Chris Kanouse and Sandy Maddox, Region 10 ESC, for hosting the NTRP-16 Council. All council members and guests introduced themselves.

**B. Approval of the September 17, 2013 NTRP-16 Council Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes made by Ray de los Santos, and Don Perry seconded. The Council minutes from the September 17, 2013, were unanimously approved and are posted on the Council's website.

**C. Gap Analysis Report and Accountability Measures**

V. Barbara Bush shared 2013 data from the gap analysis report regarding dual credit. The data showed a pattern that, although the percentage of students enrolled in advanced academics was similar in the state and region, the north Texas region had a lower percentage of students enrolled in dual credit courses. This observation led the executive committee to seek clarification.

A panel presentation explored the status of dual credit in the region. Panel members were:

***Deborah Endres***

*North Central Texas College  
Dual Credit Coordinator*

***Jeffery Miller***

*Grand Prairie ISD  
Executive Director of Academic Outreach*

***Barbara Lerner***

*Texas Woman's University  
Associate Provost for Undergraduate  
Studies and Academic Partnerships*

***Mary Villafranca***

*Birdville ISD  
Advanced Academic Specialist, AVID  
District Coordinator*

*1. What do you see as the differences in the advanced credit options?*

The perspectives of both the students and the parents influence selection of options. How the option “fits” is the most important aspect of choices made by the students. One major issue is transferability of the credit earned across the state and, in some cases, across the country. There is variability in terms of how many hours, per course, are accepted by the higher education institution. The out of state or private college does not have to accept the dual course credit, and colleges set their own criteria for accepting AP credit based on test scores.

*2. What do you see as the parents' perspective on the differences in advanced credit options?*

If students are first generation students, they tend to opt for the dual credit courses. However, the policies for costs of dual credit courses vary. For example, it is \$150 for one credit at Tarrant County College. Also, parents do not always realize the workload of the college course in terms of the amount of work required outside of class. Some parents think of the dual credit courses as providing a way to “get basic courses” out of the way for college, and AP courses are for the gifted students. Furthermore, parents may think of dual credit as a tradable commodity. However, we have to ask ourselves, what is the success rate of the students taking the dual credit courses? Are they better prepared to succeed in the upper level college courses? Are the dual credit courses rigorous? We, as a state, need to look at this further. Are we doing it for the best interest of the students?

3. *Does there seem to be a preferred selection of these options in secondary schools?*

There are 1,700 dual credit students at North Central Texas College. The rural schools have the higher percentages of students because the school may not offer AP courses, so more choose the dual credit option. In addition, we are now accepting some sophomores into the dual credit program if they meet all the requirements. We want to match the student with the best options, and inform them of the benefits of the courses. A combination of dual credit and AP courses may be a good option. HB 5 raises new issues about college readiness and advanced academics.

4. *Would you counsel students differently depending upon their choice of higher education institutions?*

Not all the school counselors understand the difference between dual credit courses and AP courses. If a student does poorly in a dual credit course, it is on their college transcript. Also, college courses taken in high school count against financial aid for the student. The counselors need to understand the pros and cons of dual credit courses.

5. *How could we, in Texas, do a better job of preparing our students for higher education?*

Students need to start making decisions in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade about what they want to do in life, choice of college, etc. HB 5 will force students to make decisions earlier in their academic careers. In addition, dual credit courses do not transfer well to private universities and out-of-state colleges.

Jean Keller thanked V. Barbara Bush and the panel for a stimulating conversation.

**D. Region 10 AVATAR Report**

Chris Kanouse presented key learnings from 2011-2013 ESC Region 10 AVATAR team entitled, Ongoing Team Challenges, and 2013-2014 Goals. Her PowerPoint presentation is posted on the NTRP-16 website. <http://www.ntp16.notlb.com/minutes/ntrp-16-council-presentation-2013123-region-10-esc-avatar-project-2011-2014-chris-kanouse>

**E. Updates and Announcements from Council Members**

Rafaela Schwann, guest of Ray de los Santos, discussed the veteran's program, College Credit for Heroes Program, and for more information contact Rafaela at [rschwann@dcccd.edu](mailto:rschwann@dcccd.edu)

Don Perry announced that on February 26, 2014, Dr. Joe May will be the new chancellor at Dallas County Community College District.

V. Barbara Bush announced the University of North Texas new president, Dr. Neal Smatrisk, will start February 3, 2014.

Linda K. Johnson announced that Dallas ISD is now offering five endorsements. The endorsements are STEM, Business and Industry, Public Services, Arts and Humanities, and Multidisciplinary Studies.

Ray de los Santos shared ongoing concerns about the need for high quality programs and supports for all bilingual students at all grade levels.

**F. Committee Meetings and Reports**

Communication and Networking- Deborah Endres

The committee will continue to seek ways to improve the website and regular communications that can showcase and promote the Council, its members, and their work. The committee and Birdville ISD nominated the Council for the Texas Association of Partners in Education Award, and the Council will be recognized on January 28, 2014 in Austin. Congratulations, Council members.

Funding & Sustainability- Mary Harris, Don Perry, and Ray de los Santos

The committee discussed future roles for the Council. Discussion also included how universities could work with the Council on policy development.

Professional Development – Barbara Lerner and Jeffrey Miller

The committee discussed the potential dates for a counselor meeting which will be hosted at TWU’s Dallas campus. House Bill 5 was suggested as a topic. Other possible topics and guest speakers were discussed. Please share ideas with Barbara and Jeffrey.

Research, Assessment, & Accountability – V. Barbara Bush and Cynthia Williams

The committee discussed the importance of updating gap analysis reports and obtaining data from school districts.

**G. Adjourn and Complete Committee Assignments – the meeting was adjourned at**

12noon with thanks to ESC Region 10 for the warm hospitality.

**Future NTRP-16 Council Meetings**

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*February 18, 2014*

*ESC Region 11, Fort Worth*

*Kathy Wright-Chapman*

*May 6, 2014*

*Texas Woman’s University –  
Dallas Center*

*Barbara Lerner*