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

*May 8, 2012; 9:00am- 12:30pm*

*Tarrant County College –Trinity River Campus*

*300 Trinity Campus Circle, Action C Room*

*Fort Worth, TX 76102*

**Present:**

Terri Barnes, V. Barbara Bush, Deborah Endres, Treva Franklin, Cathy Gabro, Rick Garcia, Mary Harris, Brooke Ingersoll, Jesse Jones, Marilyn Jones, Jean Keller, Calvin Lawrence, Barbara Lerner, Danielle Mazzeo, Jann Miles, Cynthia Fisher Miller, Anita Perry, Don Perry, Rustin Reeves, Patsy Robles-Goodwin, Ray de los Santos, David Setzer, Cynthia Williams, Trisha Windham

Guests: Bill Betzen (The School Archive Project; bbetzen@aol.com), Anna Garza (Texas Woman’s University), John Gonzales (Texas Wesleyan University; jgonzales@txwes.edu), Sandra Westmoreland (Texas Woman’s University; swestmoreland@twu.edu), and Kathy Wright-Chapman (Representing Francine Holland; ESC Region XI)

**A. Welcome and Introductions**

Jean Keller greeted the Council members and thanked Rick Garcia and Cheryl Moore for hosting the meeting. She then introduced the guest speakers, Camille Miller and Diana Maldonado from the Texas Health Institute.

**B.** **The Benefit Bank of Texas**

Camille Miller and Diana Maldonado discussed The Benefit Bank’s history nationally and the efforts made to create The Benefit Bank of Texas. The Benefit Bank concept is to create a web-based portal with the support of counselors to connect low and middle income families to unused Federal benefits. The first phase of the Benefit Bank of Texas is in Amarillo.

Website: <http://www.thebenefitbank.org/texas>

PowerPoint Presentation Available at: <http://www.ntp16.notlb.com/resources>

**C.** **Gap Analysis & Discussion**

Rick Garcia presented data from the Council’s Gap Analysis Report and conducted discussion among the Council members on how to best address the increase in diversity in the north Texas region. Please see: <http://www.ntp16.notlb.com/resources> for the PowerPoint presented to the Council members.

1. Barbara Bush reminded the group to focus on the consequences of low achievement levels among Black and Latino males.
2. Bill Betzen explained to the Council members how using graduation rates of high schools and understanding their interventions could guide best practices for student success. He also shared the importance of K-8 schools due to children’s developmental stages and the the TEA website had extensive data.
3. Ray de los Santos requested more data by gender and explained the positive influence of mentoring. He also suggested the Council look at policy implications related to the data.
4. Mary Harris reminded Council members that the women’s movement made an effort to desegregate education by gender only recently. She requested the Council collaborate with nonprofit organizations that are already in the public schools.
5. Don Perry pointed out that 2-year IHEs are funded significantly by way of the Pell grants and the Council may want to consider wrap around services, similar to full service community public schools.
6. David Setzer spoke about the need for more language education so that more students are bilingual at an early age
7. Danielle Mazzeo shared the Council may want to explore what supports are in place for minority males in the region.

**D.** **State of the Region Program**

Rick Garcia and Don Perry summarized the Council’s efforts to organize a State of the Region conference that would involve key policy level attendees and speakers.

1. Rick Garcia facilitated discussion on whether to plan this conference this fall or in fall 2013.
2. Mary Harris spoke about the pros and cons of each time and then encouraged each committee to discuss the topic during their committee meetings.
3. Action Item: The state of the region conference will be held in the fall of 2013. A date for the conference needs to be set by August 8, 2012.

1. Action Item: The Council asked that the Communication and Networking Committee work closely with the State of the Region Conference Committee to promote the conference and to emphasize the Council’s ideal of collaboration.

2. Bill Betzen volunteered to calculate the CPI (Cumulative Promotion Index) measurement for at least three years for the region to be used for presentations. CPI is the most current and predictive measurement of graduation patterns.

3. Don Perry mentioned that the Communities Foundation of Texas has committed to hosting and providing a breakfast for the State of the Region conference.

4. Trish Windham explained that she would work with the Dallas Regional Chamber to promote the State of the Region Conference

**E. Committee Meetings & Updates**

a.Debbie Endres summarized the discussion of the Communication and Networking Committee

 1. The committee discussed the P-16 website’s recent work.

 2. Newsletter will be produced by the end of June 2012.

b**.** Barbara Lerner described the work of the Professional Development Committee

 1. The committee is actively planning a counselor conference this fall.

2. The committee summarized the success of their April 28, 2012 math curriculum alignment conference with TWU, UNT, and NCTC.

c. Ray de los Santos shared the work of the Funding and Sustainability Committee

1. The committee discussed goals and the feasibility of recent grant competitions.

d**.** V. Barbara Bush summarized the work of the Research, Assessment, and Accountability Committee

1. V. Barbara Bush explained that attending other conferences and presenting expands the Council’s mission of collaboration.

**F. Brief Reports from Council Members**

a. Barbara Lerner explained that Commit! is working to establish its nonprofit status and filed 29 applications for funding; she is serving on the Awareness and Capacity Building committee and will update the Council with more information at next meeting. See information about Commit! at: <http://commit2dallas.org/>

b. Mary Harris discussed the AVATAR program’s purpose and plans for the August 13, 2012 statewide vertical curriculum alignment program. See information about AVATAR at: http://www.ntp16.notlb.com/avatar

c. Trisha Windham spoke about the EducateDallas program of supporting high quality individuals who put kids first for the DalIas ISD school board

d. Ray de los Santos is still waiting for updates from Feria Para Aprendar and will inform the Council as soon as possible

e. Danielle Mazzeo presented the three concentrations of TxCAN: 1. Awareness by constructing a comprehensive access map of services available, 2. Alignment by supporting local collaborations such as the recent Super Financial Aid Saturday, and 3. Impact by creating an impact measures and a data portal. For more TxCAN Information: <http://www.ntp16.notlb.com/resources/txcan>

f. Terri Barnes explained the Dallas AfterSchool Network’s recent “Path to Quality,” a set of benchmarks all sites must reach to ensure quality and safety for children in after school programs. For additional information see: <http://dasn.org/>

g. David Setzer spoke about the Dallas and Fort Worth Regional Workforce Leadership Council’s recent updates. Jann Miles passed out the Council’s annual report. See: <http://www.dfw-rwlc.com/industry/index.asp>

**Meeting adjourned: 12:45 pm**

**Future Council Meetings: Please mark your calendars**

September 18, 2012 - Communities Foundation of Texas, Dallas - *Host, Reo Pruiett*

December 4, 2012 - Education Service Center Region XI, Fort Worth - *Host, Francine Holland*

February 19, 2013 - Dallas County Community College District, Dallas - *Host, Don Perry*

May 7, 2013 - Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, Fort Worth - *Host, Cynthia Fisher Miller*