



North Texas Regional P-16 Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 30, 2021
9:00 am – 12:00pm
Meeting via Zoom

Members present: Jill Adams, Sandra Benavidez, Mary Harris, Lisa Harrison, Christine Hubbard, Jean Keller, Barbara Lerner, Raul Martinez, Anna Mays, Usamah Muhammad-Rodgers, Anita Perry, Ray de los Santos, Karen Walker, Rosalyn Walker, Shareea Woods

A. Greetings and Thanks

Jean Keller welcomed everyone to the Executive Committee meeting.

B. Approval of January 12, 2021, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Anna Mays moved to approve the January 12 minutes; Christine Hubbard seconded the motion, which passed without opposition.

C. Committee Updates and Action Plans for 2020-2021 Academic Year

Communications, Networking, & Social Media

Rosalyn Walker continues to post information shared by Council members and colleagues at educational service centers, the North Texas Community College Consortium, and other institutions.

Leadership and Sustainability

Ray de los Santos thanked the Council for providing a letter of support to the LULAC National Educational Service Centers in Washington regarding the Dallas LULAC and Council's shared work.

Professional Development

Barbara Lerner and Christine Hubbard shared that the 60x30TX Metroplex Region will sponsor a virtual meeting series on the third Monday of each month, starting in April, with topics that follow.

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- April 19, 2021 - 60x30TX Metroplex Region Series: Impact--Pandemic Response One Year Later: A Discussion with North Texas Superintendents
- May 17, 2021 - 60x30TX Metroplex Region Series: Equity and the Elimination of Standardized Testing Requirements for Higher Education Admissions
- June 14, 2021 - 60x30TX Metroplex Region Series: Transitions--K-12 to Higher Ed, Transfer Between Higher Education Institutions, and from the Military to Higher Education
- July 19, 2021 - 60x30TX Metroplex Region Series: Mental Health Response for Staff, Faculty, and Students
- These sessions will continue in the fall of 2021

Christine reminded everyone of the summer Lunch and Learn series on Mondays. Any topic that interests you may be added to these professional development opportunities. NTCCC is looking to the NTRP-16 Council as a partner in the 60x30TX Metroplex Regional work and as an initiator of additional programming.

Barbara shared that THECB funding was initially received to broaden discussion about military readiness and the remaining funds will be used for an in-person event next year with tracks for different interest areas. Jean suggested possibly combining this program with a Council meeting. Raul Martinez suggested TSI Assessment as a possible topic. He indicated low numbers of college ready students and this conversation could determine resources to help students prepare for the new TSI assessment.

Christine promoted NTCCC's Developmental Education Regional Forum on April 16. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) will talk specifically about the TSIA 2.0. NTCCC can follow up with specific Lunch and Learn sessions related to the new assessment.

Shareea Woods shared that College Bridge, an initiative of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Dallas County Promise that was piloted by Dallas College in the summer of 2020, hosted a meeting and reported good outcomes. They are now looking at ways more colleges can adopt that model to engage students who have been disengaged due to the pandemic and need support to prepare for college. Jean Keller offered the Council's support.

Jill Adams said it would be amazing if we had partnerships where the local colleges hosted College Bridge. She said Lewisville ISD would take advantage of it.

Anna shared that the intent of Dallas College last summer was for their faculty to test the curriculum of the College Bridge. They used internal funds and a one-time grant to hire 14 faculty to facilitate the program last summer. They cannot sustain that arrangement because the courses were offered as continuing education. The College Preparatory Courses do not count toward any degree or certificate program or college academic credit. Dallas College

encourages school partners to adopt the Texas College Bridge because it is free to them, and they can incorporate it into their English and mathematics courses. They have heard from school partners that the College Bridge is being adopted. Dallas College is relying on College Bridge as a college readiness activity offered in high schools and not a college-sponsored program. Some of the Trio Programs were interested in using the Texas College Bridge. Per the contract, if they were to negotiate with NROC for a group of students, cost is based on numbers of students. Therefore, it could be used in a grant-funded project just for the Trio students.

Barbara Lerner indicated that TWU had participated in the College Bridge research and was quite impressed with the courses and their rigor. However, one cannot know until the next phase whether course completion is an indicator of college readiness. A logistical issue is how the College Bridge courses can be recognized as a college readiness indicator by higher education institutions. Currently, demonstration requires an MOU between the high school and college.

Shareea provided context for why they were wanting higher education partners for this summer. They are trying to figure out how to help students who did not enroll last year because their year was disrupted/or who had not had a positive senior year to prepare for college. Since some of the community colleges had very significant drops in first time in college student enrollment, the colleges might be incentivized to offer the College Bridge this summer if financial support were provided as it was last summer by TEA.

Research, Assessment, and Accountability

The panel previously scheduled for February 16 will present at the April 27th Council meeting.

THECB Regional Updates

THECB is shifting away from the 60x30TX target initiative.

TXRAN

Mary Harris reported a joint symposium with Denton and Tarrant County TXRAN participants will be held on April 10 with mathematics educators from both secondary and post-secondary institutions, including community colleges and universities reporting on their year-long work.

D. Set April 27, 2021 Council Meeting Agenda

The cancelled February 16 meeting agenda will be presented at the April 27th Council meeting

E. Updates and Events in the Region

Barbara said that students show great interest in health and health related careers, but there is a decline in numbers of students interested in going into education. When we speak with Council member at the April 27th Council meeting, we can get their take on the education workforce.

Jean shared that the Council could devote a meeting to the preparation of future educators.

Usamah shared that Dallas ISD has been very intentional this year with establishing a steering committee to support students in teacher education. Our culture has created a narrative that devalues education. Teaching was once regarded as the most noble profession and great value was placed on education. Unfortunately, there are now misnomers about the financial opportunities for educators and a negative stigma associated with the profession. As educators we need to do a better job in marketing ourselves as professionals. Dallas ISD has four high schools with educator pathways through their P-Tech and Early College Programs in partnership with Dallas College and UNT Dallas. DISD is working to create local agreements with their college partners to identify courses required from the community college to maximize early college credit hours for degree completion. They are also establishing a webpage to identify scholarships for students in education pathways. Also, students in their second semester of 10th grade in the education pathways receive a letter from the district certifying that after they receive their four-year degrees, they will be employed by the district.

Jill shared that Lewisville ISD is continuing to look at increasing the pathways built into their high school master schedules. Regarding the workplace experiences, they are considering having special education and ESL staff teach some of the courses through these lenses. They also have a Grow Your Own Pathway with their After School Care/Extended School Day program and are recruiting from teacher education classes students to work at LISD. From there, they recruit into paraprofessional/aid positions while students are in college and then hire them as teachers. They are recruiting and hiring their own: one benefit is that they already have the LISD culture and background. LISD is also looking at dual credit child development pathways. Applications for counselors are also down calling for innovative recruiting.

Lisa shared that Denton ISD has a Grow You Own program through its HR department. They have trained all teachers and administrators district-wide to look for qualities in a student that would be wanted in an employee in the future. They start looking at students as early as Kindergarten. HR reaches out to parents and students to inform them they have been identified as having qualities of future educators. They have signing days and summer camps that students can attend to learn how to be a teacher.

Ray indicated one a way of improving the image of the education profession is to highlight young leaders, people who have are succeeding, such as Dr. Macario Hernandez, principal at Trinidad Garza Early College High School in Dallas ISD at Mountain View College. He recently completed his doctorate and his dissertation was on grow your own programs

Rosalyn agreed to lead a small group to develop a media campaign about increasing the role and status of educators. Thanks to our Communications Committee and we look forward to seeing the good work.

Ray suggested inviting a state demographer to a future Council meeting to speak about the demography of the future school population. He is hearing colleges and universities all over the country, are really struggling with college enrollment.

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Anita Perry reported that GENTX Decision Day is May 3, 2021. Fort Worth will have a full week of virtual celebrations. They are working to increase FAFSA completions. It has been a struggle in Fort Worth and other regional school districts. Throughout the country, FAFSA completions are down and there is need for innovative ways to engage students and parents.

GenTx Challenge: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GenTXEvents20-21>

Ray asked us to share the Ford Driving Dreams Scholarship with students at www.LNESC.org/ford-driving-dreams

F. Adjournment

Jean ended the meeting with thanks to all for a meaningful discussion related to the Council's vision and mission.

2020-2021 NTRP-16 Council Meeting Dates and Programs

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Date	Place	Host	Topics	Program Facilitator
April 27, 2021	Virtual	Raul Martinez	PK-16 Data Collection, Interpretation & Understanding	Raul Martinez

2020-2021 NTRP-16 Executive Committee Meetings

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Date	Place
June 8, 2021	Virtual