

MULTI-ETHNIC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 08/28/2023

(IN PERSON)

06:31 pm

President Mr. Timothy Robinson started the meeting Dr. Joyce Miller led the prayer and President Mr. Timothy Robinson led the pledge of allegiance.

President Mr. Robinson stated to review the minutes from the February meeting. Committee reviews minutes. (waiting on Dr. Hemphill to return during this time President Robinson had everyone introduce themselves who attended). President Mr. Robinson asked if there is anything that needs to be corrected, updated, or you see something wrong please bring it to our attention. Then we will have the motion to approve.

There was a moment to review the minutes.

Ms. Angela Reed did state a change in the minutes due to a spelling error (last bullet on bottom of page 2) Kimberly should be Kimberlin. The change was noted and corrected. President Robinson then ask with the change of Kimberly to Kimberlin do we have a motion to be approved. At this time Dr. Miller motioned to approve minutes with change. Ms. Lee then second the motion. Minutes were approved.

6:38 pm

Choice of School Presentation

President Robinson continued with on the next agenda item Choice of School presented by Dr. Hemphill. Dr. Hemphill began with the introduction of her team. She did state this is a preliminary report and the more detailed report will be given later in the year.

COS Processing Summary (Slide 2)

Student Eligible to participate Grades 1-12 Choice	46,279
Magnet Placement	10,483
Placed by Other Programs	665
Right to Remain	28,394
No Choice Made	2,549

Dr. Hemphill began to explain the Choice of School process. There were 46,279 students participating in the Choice of School process. 10,483 students participated with the magnet application, 665 were placed by another program, 28,394 had the right to remain. What this means is the students stayed where they were. The families were happy with where they were so they did not participate in the process. Those students who did not make a choice and the district had to assign them those were 2,549. So no choice was made just had to place them in a school. If there were a middle or high school the student would be placed in their feeder area, if elementary students this is a little harder as a district would have to figure out and place those students

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Participated in Choice of School Process (Slide 3)

Overall Choice Results for 2023-24

1 st Choice Received	3,178	73.8%
2 nd Choice Received	737	17.1%
3 rd Choice Received	270	6.3%
		97.2%
District assigned	119	2.8%
Grand Total		100%

*

Will need to add PreK and Kinder numbers*

A little over 4,200 student participated in Choice of School. This is lowest Choice of School 1st choice. Usually that number is up above 80% of students receive their 1st choice. 2nd choice is about 8% or 9% so 17% is high.

Participated in Choice of School Process (Slide 4)

PreK /Kinder Enrollment Event: Explore GISD

Right in the middle of the Pre-K enrollment on March 25 the kickoff event for Pre-K was held and it was called Explore GISD. Over 1,200 participants came to this event. It was held outside across the parking lot at Williams stadium. Lots of families came out and learned about Pre-K and Kindergarten. Not shown here is that the enrollment is going to be back behind the bleachers. Enrollment process is lengthy and takes about 40 minutes. From start to finish 99 people completed it but hundreds start it and go through. Hope to fill all the Pre K and Kinder seats. There are already an additional six PreK openings at already established campuses.

Dr. Miller asked: IF the enrollment was done on laptop?

Dr. Hemphill responded: Yes, on Chromebook.

Then explained where families came in and enrolled.

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Participated in Choice of School Process (Slide 5)

Current Work Underway

- New system for the next Choice o School Period
- Portfolio Review
- Pre- K Enrollment must begin on April 1 or later.

Portfolio Review: Get a good handle on all the programs from Special Education, CTE (Career and Technical Education, Magnet- we offer at each of our campuses and make sure these programs are in the right pace and see where we need to expand or contracted).

Pre-K enrollment will begin on April 1st or later . Due to the testing at other factors the pre K enrollment must be on or after April 1st. The goal is to get the information back to the pre K Kinder families before the school year ends

(Questions for the presentation opened at this time)

Q: The outside event, did anyone else come to that event or was it only for Garland?

A: No, it was for anyone who would wanted to come. We had every single campus there that has Pre-K or Kinder. So that was 49 campuses. The event was open to the public.

Q: Was the number of attendees tracked and the demographics of the attendees?

A: Did not track that information. This was our first tie hosting it outside. There was over 1,200 children to attend that event.

Q: How was the event advertised to the community/

A: A lot on social media, billboards, and at each campus students took home a sticker or half sheet that talked about the event.

Q: A question about the new choice of school system was asked.

A: The New School of Choice system is out for RFP right now. What we hope is it does encourage more people to apply and make choices. The system Skyward was not built to host a choice of school system. So many opportunities out there to make it easier for our families.

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Q: Looking at the new system will it be capable for any electronic device example cell phones iPads laptops Chromebooks?

A: Yes, most of them are compatible with all devices. System enrollment we can only use the Chromebooks we cannot use iPads.

Q: Will the new system it also be available in different languages where the translations match the meeting other than just word to word?

A: Yes most offer the opportunity to go in and clean up the translations. On the current system we can only use Google translate.

Q: Define toys and what are the parameters and restrictions around choice?

A: From a parents perspective we have two choice. First, 1st 12th grade and second Pre K and Kinder period. During that time, it used to be 30 days now it is 50 days. Parents have the opportunity to go in on their child's skyward account and choose the campuses they would like for them to attend next year. Now just because you get to make the choice doesn't mean you get what you want. There are a lot of people who didn't get what they wanted based on availability of seats at the campuses. Pre-K and kinder are wide open. Once we get to the first grade and up there are children that are already in those seats and if they are already there they can continue there. What we are doing with choice is filling in the seats that are open. What we are hoping with the new system is to show the number of seats so that you know if you have a seat at Kimberlin Academy in a neighborhood seat (there are so few of those seats) that you don't give up that seat at Kimberly Academy in a neighborhood seat for a neighborhood seat in 2nd grade at Vial because you would see how few seats are actually available. You can make an even better and more informed choice for the future.

Q: Why is it that certain students can get their choice and others can't?

A: For neighborhood seats: First siblings are looked dead second is distance from the school.

Q: What are the demographics around the Pre K numbers and is there a normal distribution in getting into Pre-K or is there a shortage?

A: Pre-K is a federal funded program, and we work within its guidelines. There are certain things we look for in Pre K. We look at first if the child speaks another language other than English, if they do that's a pre K qualifier. Second, we look at income to determine if a student can enter into the pre K. Third, foster students/ child fourth experienced homelessness in the past year and fifth, if the parents receive public star and six active duty military can attend pre K

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Q: Is the GT component included in those numbers or is it separated out?

A: There are magnet programs that cater to GT students, but we also have a GT program that is throughout all of the campuses.

Q: How do you determine the number of neighborhood seats?

A: it depends on the demand for a particular seat. (60% magnet and 40% neighborhood)

Q: Is there any reason that this year is particularly lower?

A: The first thing is there were a lot of people that chose only magnet campuses. There is a disclaimer saying you are choosing a neighborhood seat. Don't go through the magnet application process, you are only choosing for a neighborhood seat at this point. Second is the development area and growth of certain areas. Also, we had to adjust to the different programs that every high school has.

Q: How is it since there is not going to be automatic continuation between the magnet schools how will this impact choice of school?

A: Not the expert on the magnet departments can come back in the fall to discuss.

Q: At what point will we be able to measure how school choice is measured?

A: This has been going on for a long time and there is a lot of data. Even with the court order in the place. The objective was for integration, the objective wasn't higher achieving. I have not tied those two together. I am working with a consultant with System of Greater Schools sponsored by TEA to get more informative reports.

Q: The new system isn't in the budget?

A: It is a budget it is going to happen.

Q: We have data on bringing in the out of district students as far as getting them into a school?

A: Weight 2 but we only offer open seats to those students we do not offer any closed campuses.

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Q: Do they get offered one choice two choices how does that work?

A: To get offered one.

Q: The RFP related to the new system are the mebeeweebees given priority?

A: I want you to get back to double check.

President Robinson asked Doctor Miller at this time are there any NAACP updates?

Dr Miller responds April 17th and April 19th we honored 174 elementary and middle school students who are doing well in school and could behavior. May 17th scholars and athletes' program which are graduating seniors who have met the NCIA and NIA and NAA standards getting scholarships.

President Robinson at this time asked the committee members if they had anything to announce discuss or question there were no responses he then asked for the public forum if anyone in the audience would like to make a comment. No responses. President Robertson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. The meeting ended and was adjourned.

Time: 7:10pm

Committee:

Mr. Timothy Robinson, MEC Chairman
Dr. Bonnie Martinez, MEC Vice-Chairman
Ms. Pauline Sias, MEC Secretary
Mr. Patrick Cook
Ms. Barbara Daniels
Dr. Joyce Miller
Ms. Vanessa Vanpelt
Dr. Lakisha Culpepper