



WESLACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

319 W. Fourth Street
Weslaco, TX 78599-0266

Winners. **I**nnovators. **S**cholars. **D**oers.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:
Place:
Location:
Date:
Time:

Public Hearing
WISD Board Room
319 W. Fourth Street
August 14, 2017
5:18 P.M

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order by Erasmo Lopez, Board President.
- II. A quorum was established. The following board members were present.

Erasmo Lopez, President
Oscar Caballero, Vice President
Isidoro Nieto, Secretary
Patrick Kennedy, Trustee

Andrew Gonzalez, Dr. Richard Rivera, and Dr. Jaime Rodriguez were absent.

- III. Public Hearing on the Optional Flexible School Day Program

Mrs. Norma Brewer, Student Support Services/State Compensatory Director, presented on the Optional Flexible School Day Program. The Texas Education Agency requires the Board of Trustees to hold a public hearing to discuss this opportunity for students who cannot meet the traditional school setting and need a modified schedule.



Weslaco ISD Optional Flexible School Day Program

**PUBLIC HEARING
August 14, 2017
WESLACO ISD BOARDROOM**

Priscilla Canales Ph.D., Superintendent

Sue Peterson, Assist Superintendent for Secondary C&I
Norma Brewer, Student Support Services/State Compensatory Director



History of OFSDP

The OFSDP was authorized in House Bill (HB) 1 by the 79th Legislature, Third Called Session, 2006, and became effective **May 26, 2006**. HB 1297 and HB 3646, 81st Legislature, 2009, modified program provisions to increase the number of students eligible for participation in OFSDPs, effective September 1, 2009.

Weslaco ISD started participating in the program in 2010-2011. (7 years)

- WISD has offered the Optional Flexible School Day Program for the past seven (7) years.



Optional Flexible School Day Program

The Texas Education Agency offers school districts the opportunity to offer a program that will offer flexible hours and days of attendance for a student who:

- Has dropped out of school,
- Is at risk of dropping out, or
- Will be denied credit for one or more classes in which the student has been enrolled as a result of attendance requirements under the Texas Education Code (TEC) §25.092.



Program Goals

- Improve graduation rates
- Reduce dropout rate

- The OFSDP will help improve graduation rates and reduce the dropout rate.



Optional Flexible School Day Program

- Students participating in an optional flexible school day program may attend school on a fixed or flexible schedule that does not meet the traditional 180-day, 5 days-per-week requirement.
- It provides an alternate method of attendance accounting.
- A student must receive instruction in the optional flexible school day program for at least 45 minutes on a given day for instructional contact time to be recorded.
- Students must take STAAR during the regularly scheduled assessment calendar.
- A student enrolled in this type of program may participate in UIL if they meet UIL eligibility criteria.

- Students who are not able to attend school during the day are provided the opportunity to participate in the Optional Flexible School Day Program after school from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and on Saturday morning from 8:00-12:00 noon.
- Teen parents who work full-time benefit from this program.
- The students meet with their counselor to set up a schedule that best serves their need. Students do not have to attend school every day, but staff recommends that they attend for at least 2 hours.
- Students are required to take the STAAR exam.
- The District receives credit for the number of minutes that students attend school and the District is not penalized for the absences. Staff must keep a detailed record of the minutes attended by each student.



Application Process

- The district must submit an annual application to Texas Education Agency (TEA) and request approval for participation.
- A public hearing must be held to discuss the proposed program.
- If approved by the school board, then an application will be submitted to TEA.

- The Optional Flexible School Day Program will be presented for board approval at the next school board meeting.



2016-2017 Student Participation

WHS	WEHS	SPGHS	CTE ECHS
36 Participated TAKS/STAAR Remediation & Credit Recovery	21 Participated TAKS/STAAR Remediation & Credit Recovery	4 Participated TAKS/STAAR Remediation & Credit Recovery	We are adding this school for the first time.
Requesting 100 slots	Requesting 100 slots	Requesting 50 slots	Requesting 50 slots

- 100 slots are requested for WHS/WEHS
Participation has never been over 100; it varies from 20 to 50 students.
- 50 slots are requested for SPGHS and CTE ECHS due to a smaller population; however, additional slots can be requested if there is a need.



Questions/Comments

- Mr. Nieto wanted to know the number of staff members employed at the night program??
 - › 1 teacher at each campus (teacher of record)
 - › 1 data entry clerk (reviews all minutes earned and reports information to Technology)
 - › Counselors are highly involved in enrolling the students
 - › Program is offered Monday through Thursday from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:00 – 12:00 p.m.
 - › Transportation is provided for the students.
- Mr. Kennedy wanted to know how this program was advertised to the highly at-risk population.
 - › This program is made available to students by staff members who are making home visits to follow up on truancy and recovering leavers.
 - › Staff meets with the students and their parents to work on transitioning them from a full-time student to an optional flexible school day student.

- Mr. George Lopez, Migrant Director, wanted to know if students were taken off the leavers list once they were enrolled in this program.
 - › Mrs. Brewer responded that the students will be removed from the leavers list.

Board President Erasmo Lopez acknowledged staff for implementing this program for WISD students. He stated, “Kids are the most important thing that we have here and we need to offer everything we can to get them to move forward to get into college and become productive in society.”

Dr. Canales made the following statement: “Any opportunity to help children achieve graduation so they can move on with the next steps in life, even our most at-risk who might have to work or perhaps life has given them challenges, is a program worth having and it’s good to see the numbers and that it’s receiving results, so kudos to WISD for doing this for the last 7 years.

IV. Public Comments on Report

None

V. Adjournment

The Public Hearing adjourned at 5:32 p.m.