



**North Texas Regional P-16 Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2020
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Meeting via Skype**

ATTENDEES

Members present: V. Barbara Bush, Denise Davis, Wendy Gruver, Mary Harris, Lisa Harrison, Christine Hubbard, Jean Keller, Barbara Lerner, Raul Martinez, Anna Mays, Jeffrey Miller, Anita Perry, Rey de los Santos, Kendra Strange, Rosalyn Walker, Shareea Woods

Invited guests: Javier Garza, Lorea Jones-Huggins

A. Greetings, Introductions and Thanks

Jean Keller welcomed everyone to the Skype meeting.

B. Approval of January 7, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

C. Approval of February 18, 2020, Council Meeting Minutes

The minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

D. Discussion of NTRP-16's Values, Vision, Mission, and Goals

Members further reviewed updates of the values, vision, mission, and goals. The revised version appears below. These will be shared with the full Council for review, input, and adoption at the April Council meeting.

- Values –
The North Texas Regional P-16 Council is committed to:
 - equitable and widespread access to educational opportunities and community resources for all students;
 - student learning that develops at all levels educated and employable citizens ready to compete in a global marketplace;

- collaboration among PK-12 schools, postsecondary educational institutions, families, businesses, faith-based groups, government agencies, workforce systems, philanthropic foundations, and community organizations; and
- embracing and demonstrating inclusion in our work.

- Vision –
 - To be the leading collective in the North Texas region (Collin, Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant counties) for promoting equitable and inclusive education leading to access and success in the development of educated and employable citizens by sharing knowledge and resources and facilitating conversation and collaboration.

- Mission –
 - The North Texas Regional P-16 Council promotes communication, networking, and collaborative opportunities and embraces multiple perspectives, including all levels of education along with families, businesses, workforce systems, faith-based groups, local, state, and federal agencies, and philanthropic and community organizations, to advance the education of all students and close gaps in student academic access and achievement leading to educated and employable citizens.

- Goals –

The North Texas Regional P-16 Council will:

 - support educational and community initiatives and institutions to stimulate a college-going culture;
 - develop collaborative relationships and resources that promote equity in the development of educated and employable citizens;
 - engender the development of educators who support the diverse needs of communities and workplaces;
 - expand understanding of educational, transitional, and career pathways; and
 - widely share information and resources.

E. COVID-19 Impact on Education

- It was suggested that the April 28th Council meeting be a debrief on the ways institutions and communities have dealt with the COVID-19 disruption and a time for sharing lessons learned, innovative strategies, and ways to support each other.
- We could consider the COVID-19 situation from the perspectives of faculty, staff, students, and administrators at all educational levels. Members would benefit from learning of alternative resources and strategies for supporting students and staff and how technology issues have been addressed and reflecting on lessons learned.
- Here are some of the topics we identified for possible discussion.

- Food and housing insecurities that already existed but were accentuated by loss of access of members of our communities
- The need for quick and universal communication of changing procedures, guidelines, and information
- The potential and the disadvantages of online meetings. Some wished that Council meetings were regularly in this format to save transportation time and enable selection of most relevant agenda items for people with conflicting priorities. Christine reminded members that Council meeting programs are video recorded and posted on the P-16 Council website under the Resources link.
- Economic inequities have exposed affected access to higher education. Students are moved out of the dorms, but some have no other place to go. Not all students have computers and access to the Internet. Some are accessing courses on their phones. Some K-12 students are using Chromebooks, which do not have the full potential of laptops. There is a divide in accessing online courses/instruction for students in rural areas. The formats in which information is accessed must be taken into consideration.
- Child Trends (2018) shows parent involvement in P-12 schooling is at an all-time high although there are large inequities by SES, race, and language diversity. Learning at home has the potential for deeper communication between educators and parents, but this will not occur when contact is not established.
- Undocumented families with children who are US citizens, but whose parents are not are greatly impacted economically and in other ways as a result of the current situation. It is important that we keep this discussion in the forefront.
- The social and emotional learning (SEL) training and support that we give to teachers, to support our students, has an impact on teachers and must be discussed.
- What are school districts and higher education institutions doing about instruction for all students? What is being done for students that are homeless, in foster care and other situations that make it difficult to access coursework online? These students can fall through the cracks. What strategies are in place to connect teachers to these students?
- How are states looking at TSI questions? The THECB website COVID-19 FAQs has information for non-dual-credit students.
<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/misc/coronavirus-update-for-higher-education/frequently-asked-questions/>
There is a process for institutions to temporarily waive the TSI assessment requirement with two alternatives - 1) enroll them in co-requisites with a developmental course; or 2) allow them to enroll in a freshmen level course with a TSI pre-requisite and then have them test by the end of that first semester of enrollment. If they complete the course, with a passing grade, they have met TSI. There are alternatives for HS graduates. DCCCD will implement holistic advising.

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K-12 grading policies are local/school board decisions. Some districts are giving Pass/No Pass for the spring 2020 semester. This has implications for GPA, admissions, sequencing of courses, etc. Instructions for students who do not have online access are provided in paper documents distributed with food to students in need. Every district is distributing computers to students and working to problem solve internet access, for example, providing school buses with internet access (hot spots) in rural areas at predesignated hours.

- Every policy decision will intentionally or unintentionally impact a students' ability to progress. Local districts/institutions can make decisions, for example, on Pass/No Pass, however, are all institutions looking more broadly at what that means beyond this semester? The focus has been on how to effectively and equitably get students, faculty and educational institutions through this semester, which is appropriate, however, we sometimes forget what that will mean come fall 2020? How are students with Pass/No Pass grades going to be treated? Are Pass/No Pass grades going to be automatically transferable? What will it mean for students applying to a second admit program? What will it mean for Dean's lists? These "in the moment decisions" can have an impact on students' progress in the future. Hopefully, the Council and its members can discuss some of these issues and provide insights and guidance.

F. Plan for April 28 P-16 Council Meeting

We agreed to hold the April meeting virtually. Barbara Lerner (4-year college), Anna Mays (2-year college), Lisa Harrison (K-12), Ray de los Santos (non-profit), and others will present some of the issues raised in our discussion noted above. Lisa offered to host the online meeting. Wendy Gruver offered to help with facilitation.

G. Plans for 2020-21 Council Meetings

- With the goal of bringing future meeting dates and locations to the full Council during the April 28th online meeting, Jean asked members of the Executive Committee to identify the most pressing issues likely to arise in the coming year and to volunteer to host meetings of the Council and of the Executive Committee. Suggested meeting topics included preparation for Texas legislative session, the impact of the pandemic on education, and the economic impact of Legislative action.
- Members looked at their calendars for conflicts with proposed meeting dates. Those who volunteered to host meetings on proposed dates included:
 - Raul Martinez/Collin College –
 - Barbara Lerner/TWU Dallas –
 - Lisa Harrison/ESC Region 11 – Executive Committee Mtg 10/13/20 & Council Mtg 12/1/20

Council Meeting Dates	Executive Committee Meeting Dates
September 22, 2020	October 13, 2020
December 1, 2020	January 12, 2021
February 16, 2021	March 30, 2021
April 27, 2021	June 8, 2021

H. Committee Updates and Action Plans for 2019-2020 Academic Year

- **Communications, Networking & Social Media – Jeffrey Miller & Rosalyn Walker**
 - TSI Assessment information is posted on the P-16 Facebook page.
 - NTCCC meetings/events are posted on the P-16 Facebook page, and P-16 printed materials are distributed at NTCCC events. Christine said the P-16 could present at all NTCCC events. Barbara Lerner, V. Barbara Bush, Rosalyn and Mary presented at the NTCCC ECHS, Dual Credit, and CTE conference on February 28.
 - Jeffrey will create a P-16 LinkedIn account and will coordinate with Karen Zeske to connect to the P-16 Twitter account.
- **Leadership and Sustainability – Mary Harris & Ray de los Santos**
 - The full Council will review the updates to the Values, Vision, Mission, and Goals. Once approved and adopted, they will be shared widely with all constituents.
- **Professional Development – Pamela Brown & Barbara Lerner**
 - Recent emergency professional development has occurred at all levels of education with emphasis on areas in which we were least prepared. The level of preparedness at the K-12 level was strong. Most HS instructors already had courses on Canvas or other platforms or were able to move forward easily with online instruction.
 - Professional development is still important but must be delivered differently.
 - Some positive changes will come from this terrible situation.
 - Suggest creating a Google Survey for input on things to be discussed at the April 28th meeting to better handle the discussion with the people that will join.
 - Christine will create the Survey.
- **Research, Assessment and Accountability – V. Barbara Bush & Raul Martinez**
 - Suggested looking at statistics/data regarding accessibility, family situations, homelessness, etc. which are often not considered when we think of our students.
 - Present information on assumptions made about student populations that are challenged by this technological approach, which might be useful in terms of seeing this in a different perspective.

- 60x30TX Regional Update Strategies – Barbara Lerner & Christine Hubbard
 - The Military Credit Awareness Workshop was canceled
 - A new liaison has been appointed by the THECB
 - Group is working with NTCCC in getting a handle on our funds
 - The committee will discuss cancelled events and future dates and formats
- GenTX – Anita Perry
 - Resources are updated on the P-16 website GenTX page
 - Virtual Decision Day is May 1, 2020

I. Q/A about Issues in the Region All items were for discussion and may change

- Is there any conversation regarding extending the school year? At this point there is no conversation to extend the year.
- Districts may plan to bring students back May 15th to retrieve technology provided to students.
- What are we hearing from K-12 regarding Pass/Fail? The last six weeks do not affect class rank.
 - The conversation needs to include transfer from the 2-year institutions. There has been limited conversation in the North Texas region, however, Austin Community College is looking at Pass/Fail, and those students may be looking to transfer to TWU, for example.
 - Collin College is moving forward with grades as normal.
 - Some of the four-year institutions are considering Pass/No Pass with students able to select to go with a grade or P/NP.
 - TEA and the THECB are discussing whether they will waive the requirement for dual credit if the partnering institution is using Pass/Fail. No determination has been made. The THECB will add it to their FAQ page as decisions are made.
 - Tarleton State University has replicated the Pass/Fail policy of Texas A&M University College Station. Students will have a choice of whether they want the standard grading on a course by course basis or Pass/Fail.
 - Some private institutions in the region have implemented Pass/Fail.
- LULAC Scholarship deadline extended to April 30 <https://lulac.org/>.

J. 2019 – 2020 Dates and Locations for Council and Executive Committee Meetings

2019-2020 NTRP-16 Council Meeting Dates and

Programs 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

e	Place	Host	Topic	Program Facilitator
April 28, 2020	Via Zoom	Lisa Harrison	TBD	Wendy Gruver

2019-2020 NTRP-16 Executive Committee Meetings

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Date	Place	Host
June 16, 2020	DCCCD - District Office 1601 S. Lamar St. Dallas TX	Anna Mays

K. Adjourn

Jean adjourned the meeting with thanks to all members for their support of the Council and its work.