



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

**June 16, 2020
9:00 am – 2:00pm
Meeting via Zoom**

ATTENDEES

Members present: V. Barbara Bush, Denise Davis, Tiffany Gilmore, Wendy Gruver, Mary Harris, Lisa Harrison, Christine Hubbard, Jean Keller, Barbara Lerner, Raul Martinez, Anna Mays, Usamah Muhammad-Rodgers, Kendra Strange, Karen Walker, Rosalyn Walker

A. Greetings and Thanks

Jean Keller welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting.

B. Approval of March 31, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes were reviewed. Christine Hubbard moved approval as written; Lisa Harrison seconded, and the minutes were approved as written.

C. Approval of April 28, 2020, Council Meeting Minutes

The minutes were reviewed with correction of the spelling of “STAAR” (page 5) noted. Christine Hubbard moved approval as corrected; Barbara Lerner seconded, and the minutes were approved as corrected.

D. Follow up to the April 28th Council discussion

1. Jean Keller reminded members of the request of high school counselors for the current admission criteria of 2-year and 4-year institutions of higher education. After the April 28 Council meeting, V. Barbara Bush and Raul Martinez secured current admission data but found it was a moving target as evolving recommendations from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) contributed to frequent changes. Some ISDs also made changes responding to local conditions. Barbara and Raul concluded that institutional websites are the best sources of up-to-date information, and a list of addresses was prepared for distribution and will be posted on the Council’s website.

2. Barbara Learner reported updates on issues discussed in April as they applied to TWU.

- Regarding dual credit, TWU accepts what the districts are doing regarding instruction and classroom capacity, however, districts must follow the academic calendar of TWU for final grades to comply with state guidelines.
- In the upcoming school year, student teaching may be virtual due to the small number of students allowed per classroom. Student teacher supervision may also be virtual.
- TWU’s Denton center is currently open for TSIA testing.

3. Members shared information about the Texas College Bridge Project

[Texas-College-Bridge-Overview.pptx](#) an effort to prepare Texas high school students for college success by offering an alternative means of supporting students and achieving district College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR). This project was recently introduced, with brief notice for most potential participants. Here are features of this project with respect to students and school districts.

Individual Students	School Districts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll in self-paced, competency-based, on-line courses, that produce evidence of validity. • Receive personalized math and/or English learning. • Do not pay for courses in first round. • May receive an exemption applicable beyond 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May demonstrate college readiness of students if party to an MOU with at least one IHE partner that pertains to the vetted HB5 course. • Do not pay for the courses as TEA has procured a license for the state. • Enhance A-F accountability ratings for 2020-2021 (and beyond). TEA is working to allow data reported for this year’s graduates who demonstrate college readiness to apply for college through 8/31.

Usamah Muhammad-Rodgers said that Dallas ISD is piloting the College Bridge with 150 high school students in July. Many entities did not have adequate time to get someone on board at the university level for the summer 2020 semester. TEA is working with Greenlight Credentials as an agent for transcription of these courses. The plan is that the MOU between a school district and IHE partners will identify Greenlight as a vehicle for transfer of credit. Dallas ISD does not offer College Bridge as a course. Instead, courses are offered as a supplemental summer program through Greenlight Credentials. Dallas ISD is purchasing the NROC EdReady platform to help fill in gaps in preparing students for college.

Rosalyn Walker said that Tarrant County College District did not sign the MOU due to the brief turnaround time. Faculty did not have adequate time to review and implement the College Bridge. They will fully study College Bridge and may be able to offer it in summer 2021. TCCD are offering HB5 training virtually this summer for faculty members and ISD partners and placing emphasis on the standard college prep courses.

Anna Mays shared that the Dallas Promise views the College Bridge coursework as a credential. Barbara Lerner shared challenges with official transcription of the TISA completion.

Rosalyn said that part of the issue here is financial. College Bridge is starting out with no cost to the student, but different 2-year colleges have different policies about who pays for classes taken by high school students.

Karen Walker and Lisa confirmed that school districts in ESC Regions 10 and 11 were either unaware of or did not have enough time to review and implement the College Bridge for Summer 2020. The ESCs were not involved in the planning. Christine Hubbard confirmed that due to the quick turnaround time to implement College Bridge, Hill, Weatherford, and NCTC, as well as TCCD institutions, were utilizing structures already in place. Raul said Collin College has one district interested in using College Bridge, largely because this first year is free. Later funding for College Bridge will have to come from the ISD or the IHE.

Lisa Harrison said the College Bridge plan was first introduced to ESCs on June 4 in a presentation by Mike Morath, head of TEA. TEA has joined the NROC Network, which is working at the national level to make its platform, EdReady, and its interactive college readiness courses and assessments available to members. Dues are reduced for new members. NROC was developed through funding from the Hewlett, Irvine, and Gates Foundations. The courses are self-paced and start on July 6. A student who does not pass cannot receive a TSI waiver but may gain important skills.

Lisa pointed out that an incentive for an ISD to use College Bridge is CCMR credit. If a student originally was not college ready demonstrates TSI readiness, TEA counts this as passing the TSI. However, it does not qualify the district for the CCMR bonus money.

4 . Professional Development Opportunities

Jean asked about progress of the survey of community colleges being conducted by the Texas Association of Community Colleges. Christine Hubbard confirmed that no data have been made available yet.

Because of the desire of those present to continue discussion that can help P-16 Council members be informed of new developments in K-12 and higher education, the group developed with Christine Hubbard a plan for the Council to collaborate with the North Texas Community College Consortium (NTCCC) in offering one of its Monday Lunch and Learn sessions. A collaborative Lunch and Learn will be scheduled for Monday, July 20, Noon-1:00pm and will explicitly include P-16 Council members and provide updates on what's going on in K-12 and 2 and 4-year IHE landscapes in light of COVID-19, racial issues, and offering opportunities to share resources and explore our work together to support student learning and career success. Suggested topics related dual credit, student transportation, soft launches, and equity. Christine Hubbard, and P-16 Council members Tiffany Gilmore, Lisa Harrison, Barbara Lerner, Anna Mays and Kendra Strange were recommended as co-hosts. Christine also encouraged P-16 members to share NTCCC events/postings for professional development of K-12 and 4-year college audiences.

E. Finalize 2020-2021 Council Meeting Dates, Topics, and Facilitators

Members discussed plans for 2020-21 meetings of the Council made at the April 28 meeting and agreed to:

- All 2020 meetings will be held virtually.
- A program for Equity Fellows is starting. Could members of this group be included in our April program focused on equity and social justice? (Is this the Teach Plus Texas Equity Fellowship Program?)
- V. Barbara Bush recommended that the Council take a deeper dive into where we get the data reported by the TEA, THECB, and others who provide state and regional data on Texas education. How are the data changing, what are their sources, and how data influence decision-making? Raul and Kendra endorsed this idea and data will continue to be part of each Council meeting.
- A summary of the meeting plan with host and facilitators appears below.

2020-2021 NTRP-16 Council Meeting Dates and Programs

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Date	Place	Virtual Host	Topics	Program Facilitator
September 22, 2020 Meeting will be by Zoom	Virtual	Barbara Lerner	Federal Legislative Updates	Anna Mays
December 1, 2020 Meeting will be by Zoom	Virtual	Lisa Harrison	Pathways to Completion: Alignment of P-Tech & ECHS with Four-year IHE	Tiffany Gilmore & Lisa Harrison
February 16, 2021	Collin College – Frisco Campus Conference Center	Raul Martinez	PK-16 Data Collection, Interpretation & Understanding	Raul Martinez
April 27, 2021	Tarrant County College – Trinity River Campus	Rosalyn Walker	Equity and Social Justice	Christine Hubbard

2020-2021 NTRP-16 Executive Committee Meetings - All meeting will be virtual

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Date	Place
October 13, 2020	Virtual
January 12, 2021	Virtual
March 30, 2021	Virtual
June 8, 2021	Virtual

E. Review of Council Membership list

We discussed the current membership list, and commitments were made as follows:

- Christine will reach out to North Central Texas College and the Metroplex Region’s THECB liaison list for participants. Suggestions for District representatives are also welcome.
- Jean will reach out to UTA for representatives.
- Karen and Lisa will recommend ISD membership. Our original goal was to invite at least one large, one medium sized, and one rural district from each region. Interested districts are welcome.
- Anna pointed out that effective July 3, 2020, DCCCD will become Dallas College. The Council website will be updated.

F. Committee Updates and Actions for 2020-21 Academic Year

1. Research, Assessment and Accountability Committee – V. Barbara Bush shared that she is retiring August 31. She thanked everyone for being wonderful colleagues. Raul will continue to co-chair the committee. Dr. Bush was thanked by all for her leadership and guidance.
2. Communications, Networking and Social Media - Rosalyn reported the revised Early College High School Blueprint is now available <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/Revised-2020-Early-College-High-School-Blueprint-and-P-TECH-and-T-STEM-Blueprint-Access-Outcomes-Based-Measures-Revisions.pdf>. She, Karen, and Jeffrey Miller will continue to update the social media sites as information is shared.
3. Professional Development – Barbara Lerner reported that TWU is partnering with NTCCC in hosting a Community College Counselor Seminar in July. This is an event to discuss transfer and to exchange information. Barbara said she would send out the date.
4. Leadership and Sustainability - No new information to report.

5. 60x30TX - Barbara Lerner indicated the regional initiative is still moving forward with a military awareness initiative; however, it has been postponed with a strong current focus on equity training. The THECB Dashboard has been rolled out and will be a great tool for us. The data are granular down to the individual high school campus and show where the school graduates enter post-secondary education. It also addresses the transition spots between K-12 and higher education by district. The Dashboard will be available on THECB website but is not yet public.

Lisa reflected that the 60x30TX goals are being revisited by the TEA. The change in leadership of the THECB is reshaping understanding of major components of the strategic plan. Jean suggested Commit as an alternative source of data and Dr. Melissa Humphries, THECB, who directs the TXRAN project, as a resource for understanding both THECB and TEA data.

6. GenTX – Jean reported information from Anita Perry. We were a little under what our hopes were for this region with respect to the FAFSA completions and appreciate the good work.

G. Set September 22, 2020 Council Meeting Agenda

Anna is facilitator for a program on legislative updates. Suggestions included

- Reach out to THECB and Council of Governments contacts for information/resources/panelists,
- Include information on implications of the DACA decision,
- Include 2 and 4 year IHE representation, K-12, and career representatives,
- Consider federal as well as state directions,
- Include information on K-12 legislation, budget issues, HB25, and workforce trends,
- Include Lanet Greenhaw and Elizabeth McClain from the Dallas Chamber of Commerce and Dale Latham from Region 11 ESC,
- Remember the #1 issue in the region is health!
- Consider expectations of parents as well as of students,
- We need still more help with communication about dual credit and how to assure students make wise decisions in light of their majors.

H. Adjournment

Everyone on the meeting gave a virtual handclap to V. Barabara Bush and thanked her for all she's done for the Council.

Jean thanked everyone for joining and sharing their knowledge and resources.

Stay safe everyone!