# 2014-15 Goals Report

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August 18, 2015

# District Goals

Plano ISD has two major ongoing district goals:

- ☐ Ensure continued improvement in student learning.
- ☐ Ensure efficient use of financial resources/budgeting.

# 2014-15 District Initiatives

Legislative issue platform reflecting district priorities

- ☐ Opposed Vouchers

- ☐ Instructional calendar (local control)

- ☐ Early childhood and pre-kindergarten education (federal)

- ☐ Terminating Chapter 21 employee contracts upon felony conviction

*A result of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees' legislative sub-committee's efforts added to the TASB legislative advocacy platform.*

# 2014-15 District Initiatives

Legislative issue platform reflecting district priorities

❑ Funding issues

- Including off-campus instruction in the calculation of the weighted average daily attendance*
- Update the Cost of Education Index (CEI)*
- Adjust the Equalized Wealth Level for Enrichment Taxes above the first 6 cents of enrichment tax effort
- Increase Level 2 Enrichment (Golden Pennies) from 6 pennies to 8 pennies
- Continue state funding for state mandated increase in district's contributions to Teacher Retirement System (TRS)- (state)
- Middle and High School Counselor Funding Allotment to address the need for increased counseling services from HB5

*A result of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees' legislative sub-committee's efforts added to the TASB legislative advocacy platform.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

The legislative session ended on June 1, 2015. The District's priorities met with mixed results. On the positive side:

- ✓ Vouchers were not enacted

- ✓ Some leeway on the instructional calendar was given via HB 2610

- ✓ A preschool grant program was funded, albeit at a relatively low level

- ✓ HB 2812 might provide for districts with eSchool programming to have enrolled students count in attendance for state funding purposes, but the Commissioner of Education must first establish rules.

- ✓ Instructional Materials Allotment funding was front loaded in the State's biennial budget helping with funding for new textbook adoptions.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

On the negative side, very little was done for school finance.  Although the Basic Allotment and equalized wealth levels were increased, they will not keep pace with inflation as projected by the State Comptroller.  Nothing else was done on the District's other funding issues.  It appears that any significant school finance reform will come only after the State Supreme Court rules on the current lawsuit.

# 2014-15 District Initiatives

Technology in Support of Student Learning

- ❑ Develop and communicate a logic to technology acquisition and support especially those directly connected to student learning

- ❑ Enhance the communication plan to increase awareness of technology initiatives and successes

- ❑ Evaluate/expand current systems and procedures to encourage more flexibility and authorize more distributed oversight

- ❑ Integrate greater flexibility for mobile devices in the classroom instructional model

# 2014-15 District Initiatives

Technology in Support of Student Learning

- ❑ Expand the support model to provide technical help locally
- ❑ Enhance e-school with course development and integrated business services
- ❑ Identify pilot projects that allow us to examine the potential to transform the teaching/learning dynamic
- ❑ Ongoing professional development focus for our campus leadership team
- ❑ Continue to analyze and refine a financial plan that supports technology

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Develop and communicate a logic to technology acquisition and support especially those directly connected to student learning**

- The technology departments have developed a group of integrators labeled "Team Textbooks" that incorporate the instructional technology group along with the infrastructure, database, desktop, acquisitions and help desk groups. Currently, all groups are meeting and developing the back end integration with textbook vendors as the district works with new companies to help deliver the curriculum. The instructional technology area coordinates the efforts between technology and curriculum.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Enhance a communication plan to increase awareness of technology initiatives and successes**

- The instructional technology group started a program called "Educational Technology Summer Institute" or ETSI. The program began as a three day workshop to expose teachers to successful integration of technology into the classroom. A slight alteration to the name was needed as we expanded the program across the district. It is still known as ETSI but the name now stands for "Educational Technology Success Initiative".

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Evaluate/expand current systems and procedures to encourage more flexibility and authorize more distributed oversight**

- Over the past year significant efforts have taken place to offer more flexibility to the staff in choosing devices from multiple vendors.

  As technology expands into all areas of the district, *distributed oversight* will be an ongoing focus. At the beginning of the year, campuses were required to send a request to technology for an account to be created on any system outside of Plano ISD. As the amount of needs has increased, the model for creation/support has adapted to provide distributed oversight.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Integrate greater flexibility for mobile devices in the classroom instructional model**

- This year the district has invested in building an enterprise Mobile Device Management Solution. The system is a cloud based environment from Cisco/Meraki and works with both Android and Apple devices. At the current time, the district has only implemented the Apple solution. Technology has worked with finance to build a process so purchase orders can be used for volume app purchases.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Expand the support model to provide technical help locally**

- At the elementary schools, the model was to share one CTA per two campuses. This past year, an additional CTA position was added to each elementary location to provide local support in a timely manner.

  Additional technology related areas contributed and offered professional development to campus technology assistants to extend their support.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Enhance e-school with course development and integrated business services**

- The campus services/e-school department, in collaboration with the curriculum department, has completed the expansion of several course development projects.

    During the contract renewal process, the structure was enhanced to incorporate a hosted/cloud model to be maintained and updated by the company in their datacenters.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Identify pilot projects that allow us to examine the potential to transform the teaching/learning dynamic**

- The academic services group and the instructional technology group participated in the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) iTunes U fall expansion project. Both groups went to the Apple campus in Austin where they contributed to the course creation process for designated courses, including CTE and English. The groups helped curate content for iTunes U TASA courses that will be accessible to any teacher interested in enhancing their current curriculum through supplemental material.

  The makerspace projects have been implemented in a few campuses across the district. The program is a physical space that provides students an opportunity to design, create, and build projects out of their imagination. Students become creators instead of consumers, utilizing the four C's (Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, and Critical Thinking).

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Ongoing professional development focus for our campus leadership team**

- The instructional technology group visited every campus over the past year to provide professional development and will be expanding the offering to the leadership teams over the next school year.

  A trendier way for professional development to take place is with professional learning networks (PLN's) utilizing twitter. These #edchats have been taking place afterhours on Tuesday evenings while school was in session. The instructional group has been instrumental in helping foster its growth.

# Status as of June 30, 2015

**Continue to analyze and refine a financial plan that supports technology**

- The 2016 fiscal year operating budget was crafted to account for the expenditures needed to keep the existing infrastructure operational on the M&O side, while additional funds were allocated in the Capital Projects Fund (technology replacement) to adequately fund the district's technology plan. The Capital Projects Fund includes over $12 million in addition to funds remaining from the 2008 bond program for technology replacement.

# 2014-15 District Initiatives

Systems leadership towards transforming the teaching and learning dynamic

- Instructional Quality Matrix (IQM) as we cross-walk CoreWork$^{®}$ efforts
- Move from development to practical application
- Protocols to use the IQM for professional learning

# Status as of June 30, 2015

- The cross-walk document between the IQM and the CoreWork framework was completed and shows an extremely high level of correlation. As suspected, the Plano's repurposed version of the CoreWork framework (which we have temporarily labeled EduOptomize) will allow us to operationalize the more conceptual, inquiry-based IQM document. Plans are underway to roll out this newly created tool to campuses in late July and early August for inclusion in the development of campus improvement plans.

- In addition, several sessions were conducted throughout the school year with campus principals using sections of the IQM to frame their reflections on instructional quality by beginning with creating and maintaining a common vision for high expectations for all.

# 2014-15 District Initiatives

Choice Programs of Plano- Continued Development

- ❑ Conduct surveys and gather feedback on current programs
- ❑ Research elementary choice themes and successful programs
- ❑ Investigate need for site visits to gather first-hand evidence
- ❑ Develop a process (including a steering committee and related workgroups) to create an actionable plan relating to elementary choice programs

# Status as of June 30, 2015

- We have completed another year of growth with review, analysis, and adjustments for our choice high school academies.  2016-17 will bring our first graduating class for our Academy High School and our Health Science Academy programs.

- We continued research and pre-planning work for an elementary choice program.  We commissioned two studies through Hanover Research that are included in the evidence section.  In addition, we conducted site visits to the J. Erik Jonsson Community School in Oak Cliff and the Great Hearts charter network in Phoenix.  We have plans to visit St. Philip's School and Community Center once the school year starts back up.  All of these schools have characteristics that we have learned from and can incorporate into a choice academy or school programming here in Plano.

- In addition, we presented a "how to" session on academy planning at the NSBA conference in Nashville which allowed us to formalize our process steps.

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