

Dear Mr. Infante,

At this time, I am inviting you to serve as a member of the Leadership Advisory Committee for the Department of Organization & School Leadership at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Your advice and support will be of great value to us in our efforts to provide high quality Educational Leadership Programs. The Leadership Advisory Committee is comprised of superintendents, principals, other educational leaders, university faculty, plus community and business representatives from across the Rio Grande Valley.

Our first meeting this year will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2017, in the South Texas ISD library (Biblioteca Las Americas) located on 100 Med High Drive, Mercedes, Texas. The meeting will be from 10:00 – 12:00 am. Brunch will be served. An agenda and the minutes from the spring 2017 meeting are forthcoming.

I are looking forward to seeing you at the meeting and hearing your thoughts on how we can better develop aspiring leaders and serve districts and schools.

Please RSVP to Ruby Sens at sensr@utrgv.edu by Monday, October 30, 2017, or call to 665-3436.

Respectfully



Velma Menchaca, Ph.D. Department Chair
Department of Organization and School Leadership

Leadership Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2017
South Texas ISD Library

8:00-9:00 am: Breakfast was served in the McAllen ISD board room.

Introductions

Dr. Marla Guerra, Superintendent for South Texas ISD greeted the committee. UTRGV Interim Dean, Dr. Alma Rodriguez greeted the group as well. Organization and School Leadership Department Chair, Dr. Velma Menchaca then greeted the group and outlined the meeting agenda.

The Strategic Plan: Review Progress Made and Discuss New Steps

Dr. Roberto Zamora discussed the five-year strategic plan that had been created in 2014. He discussed the goals and those that were in progress.

Program Updates

Dr. Rosalinda Hernandez provided an update on the Master's program. She shared enrollment data and discussed that she was chairing a committee to update the Principal state standards. Dr. Fred Guerra also gave an update on the principal program. He stated that the state was in the process of creating a new state exam and that he would discuss further in the agenda. Dr. Zamora briefly discussed that he was also aligning the superintendent courses to the state standards.

Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL): Key concepts and possible implications for principal preparation programs

Dr. Guerra reviewed the new certification exam the 268 and the Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL). He also reviewed the different components and requirements for the exam. The committee did share concerns about the new exam as the cost of the exam is much more than the previous exam. Dr. Menchaca also mentioned the department was currently aligning the new PASL exam format and requirements to all the course currently being offered. Dr. Hernandez also stated the importance of the mentor principal working with our principal candidates on field-based activities/problem-solving activities because students are now responsible for performing certain tasks as part of their exam.

Leadership Development Partnerships: Review Progress Made and Discuss New Steps

Dr. Zamora discussed that there were six partnerships with UTRGV and six school districts. A Memorandum of Understanding had been drawn up.

2017 Critical Issues for Leadership Conference – Follow Up Report

Dr. Roberto Zamora, thanked the partners for attending the conference. He discussed the conference program and members of the committee provided feedback on the sessions. One of the concerns was that the conference was held at South Padre Island. The distance to the conference made it difficult for educators to attend.

2018 Critical Issues for Leadership Conference – Planning. Dr. Zamora invited members of the committee to be part of the planning committee for the fall 2018 conference He stated that a

meeting would be set up soon and asked members to sign the form if they were interested in serving on the committee.

Adjournment

Dr. Velma Menchaca thanked the members for their attendance. She stated that the spring 2018 meeting would be at PSJA ISD and that the date would be announced later.