



## **ALEDO ISD BOARD MEETING TEMPLATE**

**MEETING DATE:** June 20, 2016

**AGENDA ITEM:** Superintendent Report

- A. District Events
- B. Terry and Helen Hyles Spring Semester Teacher Attendance Awards
- C. Commissioner's Decision Related to STAAR Exams
- D. Districts of Innovation Discussion
- E. District Summer Hours

**PRESENTER:** Derek Citty, Superintendent

**ALIGNS TO BOARD GOAL(S):** All

### **Report Information:**

#### **A. District Events**

June 23 – New Board Member Orientation (Day 2) – Administration – 8:30 AM  
July 13/14 – Appraiser Training – ESC XI – All Day  
July 18 – Board Meeting – Administration – 7:00 PM  
Aug 6 – Bearcat Nation 101 – AHS – 9:00 AM till 12:00 PM  
Aug 9 – New Employee Luncheon – AHS – 11:30 AM  
Aug 15 – District Convocation – AHS – 8:00 AM

#### **B. Terry and Helen Hyles Spring Semester Teacher Attendance Awards**

As is the Board's practice, names will be drawn of employees with perfect attendance during the spring semester. Each staff member drawn will receive a \$250 reward. This program is generously funded by longtime Bearcats supporters Mr. Terry Hyles and Mrs. Helen Hyles. The District is very grateful for their continued generosity to our District.

#### **C. Commissioner's Decision Related to STAAR Exams**

On June 10, 2016 Commissioner of Education Mike Morath issued a decision related to numerous and widespread errors reported this spring surrounding the administration of STAAR testing. Commissioner Morath's directive effectively cancelled the administration of June STAAR testing and removed any negative consequences embedded in regulation related to all 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who would have normally been required to retake the examination.

Administration views this directive as an overall positive for the students of Texas. However, it should be noted that the preliminary results of the assessment in question appeared to be highly favorable to the students of AISD.

#### **D. Districts of Innovation Discussion**

On June 22<sup>nd</sup> I will be attending an informal meeting of several area superintendents in a share session related to the “Districts of Innovation” program. We are in the process of gathering information related to the effectiveness of the program and what this designation may have to offer our school district.

A TASB link to general information related to Districts of Innovation can be found at:

[https://www.tasb.org/Services/Legal-Services/TASB-School-Law-eSource/Governance/documents/districts\\_of\\_innovation\\_apr16.pdf](https://www.tasb.org/Services/Legal-Services/TASB-School-Law-eSource/Governance/documents/districts_of_innovation_apr16.pdf)

#### **D. District Summer Hours**

The District Administrative offices will be closed the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>. While central administrative staff will be present, the offices will be closed to the public during that week.

June 10, 2016

**To the Administrator Addressed:**

**SUBJECT: Significant Changes to June STAAR Testing for Grades 5 and 8, Student Success Initiative (SSI) Requirements and Confidential Student Reporting Timelines**

As a result of ongoing reporting issues with our testing vendor, we will be removing student consequences attached to STAAR testing for grades 5 and 8 for the remainder of the 2015-16 assessment cycle. We are also modifying the requirements for SSI and the reporting requirements for Confidential Student Reports (CSR).

The decisions outlined in this communication are based on TEA's commitment to our districts and students, and with the priority of ensuring that those affected are not penalized due to our ongoing vendor reporting issues.

***Cancellation of June STAAR Testing for Grades 5 and 8***

Given that June STAAR test results will not be required to be used for promotion decisions for SSI purposes and are not used for accountability, I am cancelling the June administration of STAAR for grades 5 and 8.

Students in grades 5 and 8 who did not perform satisfactorily on the March 2016 or May 2016 STAAR mathematics and/or reading tests will not be retested in June. We encourage districts to use local discretion to determine on an individual basis whether accelerated instruction should be offered in the applicable subject area for students who did not pass the mathematics and/or reading assessments in March and/or May. For the 2015–2016 school year, districts are not required to convene grade placement committees based solely on grade 5 and 8 STAAR results. Instead, you should use local discretion and all relevant and available academic information to make promotion/retention decisions for these students as you see fit, such as the recommendation of the teacher and the student's grade in each subject.

***Confidential Student Report (CSR) Guidance***

Given delays in reporting, TEA is altering the start of the five-day timeline for sending CSRs to families. CSRs must still be distributed to families within five days, once reporting issues are resolved and final data files are provided to school districts.

TEA is moving as fast as possible to address any reporting concerns that are being identified. Expect further communication regarding revised timelines around score reporting for grades 3-8 and EOCs, and data file distribution in the coming days. If you need more information, please contact the Student Assessment Division at 512-463-9536.

I deeply apologize for the continuing problems your students and staff are being forced to deal with because of ongoing reporting issues with our testing vendor.

Sincerely,  
Mike Morath  
Commissioner of Education