



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: PUBLIC HEARING for the Adoption of a Dyslexia Program as Required by SB 1474

SUBMITTED BY: Guadalupe M. Perez, Ed.D., Director of Section 504/Dyslexia

OF: Curriculum and Instruction Department

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: May 16, 2018

Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the Section 504/ Dyslexia Department to adopt a new Dyslexia Program to serve our students. The current program is outdated and has been in use since 1985 (33 years) in UISD. The Scottish Rite 1985 Edition is in need of updating to ensure our dyslexia students are instructed with an updated program that will ensure successful reading outcomes for our students and also affords revised instructional tools for our teachers.

Rationale:

Curricular and Instructional expectations for our students have changed since 1985. TEA has evolved to require students perform to a more challenging curriculum since that time. We have moved from the TEA requirement of Essential Elements to the Texas Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and from the TEAMS state assessment to the STAAR. Students with Dyslexia- a lifelong disability are expected to perform at the same level as their non-disabled reading fellow students.

As dictated by Senate Bill 1474, requires school districts to follow a process of transparency before the adoption of any new instructional program. This mandate affords our Board of Trustees to obtain feedback from the community to decide if the proposed program will meet the goals of UISD to serve our individual student instructional objectives. Currently, our dyslexia program teaching materials bought for the instruction of our dyslexia students have been discontinued.

Budgetary Information:

The cost of this program will be a total of \$92,000; to include training and materials for all of our dyslexia teachers. However, should UISD be awarded the Dyslexia Grant by TEA, then the cost would be covered by this allocation.

Board Policy Reference and Compliance:

This item meets the requirement of board policy -EFE Legal and the Texas Administrative Code- 19 TAC 66.104 (a). These compliance policies require the board of trustees select instructional materials as required by a Texas Public Meeting Act to include public notice to the community.



Dyslexia Program Recommendation

Program Proposal Prepared
by
The 504/Dyslexia Department

Ms. Melissa Cruz, Executive Director
Dr. Guadalupe M. Perez, Director
Ms. Marissa Perez, Coordinator

May 2018

Rationale for Recommendation:

- ***Purpose-***

The current UISD Dyslexia Program was developed in 1985 and is in need of replacement

- ***Composition of the Dyslexia Program Review Committee-***

- A total of 12 Committee Members were selected to review the dyslexia program presentations as provided by their respective representatives

- Members included Dyslexia Teachers, Campus Administrators and C&I Central Staff Members

- ***Overview of Programs-***

- Four Program Representatives made presentations to the UISD Dyslexia Committee Members

- Program dates & discussion on the various attributes of their programs were held. Immediately after the presentation of each program, the representatives were available to answer questions from the committee.

- Programs were analyzed arriving at a recommendation during a final meeting by the Dyslexia Program Review Committee

- Voting Ballots and a signed letter of recommendation by the committee members was submitted to Ms. Melissa Cruz for consideration of the new Dyslexia Program

Rationale for Recommendation:

- ***Considerations of the Program Choices included analysis of:***
 - Research Based Foundation
 - Program Implementation
 - Student Success Rates
 - Cost Effectiveness
 - Transition Process
 - Professional Development

- A template was developed to identify each program's description, positive and negative attributes, cost and the final rankings of each of the Dyslexia Program Committee

Program Presentation Timeline

A total of 4 Programs agreed to present their instructional materials for review of the UISD Dyslexia Program Committee

Date	Program	Representative
October 20, 2017	Spire	Ms. Star Rodriguez
November 17, 2017	MTA-(Multisensory Teaching Approach)	Ms. Linda Sullivan
December 8, 2017	Neuhause	Ms. Kathy Fisher & Ms. Regina Gooden
January 12, 2018	Scottish Rite	Ms. Janice Robson & Dr. Jackie Valadez

Rationale for Scottish Rite Program Recommendation

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Research Based</u>- Texas Scottish Rite- Luke Waites Center for Learning Disorders was established in 1965. This research has been used as the foundation for all other dyslexia programs.• <u>Program Implementation</u>- Structured Lesson Plans including alignment with TEKS for ELA and Reading, aligned with a multi-sensory instructional approach, and for use with Rtl reading intervention delivered via a 40-45 daily lesson.• <u>Student Success Rates</u>- The prior version has proven to be successful with UISD students, placement tests and progress monitoring component is available to track student success.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Professional Development</u> -Teacher Training will be for 5 <i>consecutive</i> days and 3 days throughout the school year- for a total of 8 days. This will require coordination with the campus and student instructional schedules. The teacher training will take 1 year to complete.

Rationale for Scottish Rite Program Recommendation...

Continued:

Strengths	Limitation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Cost Effectiveness</u>- No recurring costs for instructional materials- all are included with the teacher training component. The total cost for training participants is \$2,300 per teacher or a total of \$92,000 to train 40 teachers• <u>Transition Process</u>- Effective and smooth student instructional process and teacher implementation as we are currently using the 1985 version of this program• <u>Professional Development</u>- Staff from the Scottish Rite Program will come to Laredo to train our teachers on program implementation. Thereby facilitating teacher training and cutting the cost to UISD.	

Recommended

Next Steps for Implementation

- May 2018- Seek Approval from the UISD Board of Trustees for the adoption of the Scottish Rite Dyslexia Program for UISD students and finalize the professional development and program implementation plan for the UISD Dyslexia Program
- May- June 2018 - Coordinate Professional Development with the Scottish Rite Program Personnel and our UISD Professional Development Department for coordination of teacher schedules and use of facilities for training purposes
- August 2018- Overview to our teaching staff during their back to school professional development sessions and implementation of the Scottish Rite Dyslexia Program at all UISD campuses

Dyslexia Program Review Committee

Teachers:

Ms. Mary Koch
Ms. Velma Navarro
Ms. Edith Guerra
Ms. Patricia Mireles
Ms. Cristina Farias
Ms. Katherine Miller
Ms. Mari Castillon
Ms. Veronica Soto
Ms. Thelma Bustamante
Ms. Bertha Lopez
Ms. Zulema York

Total Teachers: 12

Campus Administrators:

Ms. Mucia Flores
Ms. Rosenda Ruiz

C&I Staff:

Dr. Guadalupe Perez
Ms. Marissa Perez

Total Administrators: 4

On Behalf of all Dyslexia Students, Teachers and Staff- Thank You!



United ISD



Dyslexia Program Recommendation