



**MINUTES**  
**STATE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)**  
**FOR THE TEXAS MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM**  
**Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark**  
**Austin, Texas**  
**May 6-7, 2010**



**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Minerva Maldonado—Donna ISD; Eleazar Limas—Edinburg CISD; Enid Lindsey—Goose Creek CISD; Dolores Martinez—San Felipe-Del Rio CISD; Dolores Sanchez—Goose Creek CISD; Felix Vazquez—Region 13 ESC; Lorena Cuellar—Weslaco ISD; Juanita Borrego—Edcouch-Elsa ISD; Yolanda Hernandez—Smithville ISD; Maria Juarez—El Paso ISD; Dr. Cynthia Bebon—McAllen ISD; Francisco Rodriguez—Region 17 ESC; San Juanita Manriquez—Weslaco ISD

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Juanita Posas—Hays CISD

**GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT:** Pat Escamilla—Edinburg CISD; Jesus Juarez; Tomás Yáñez—Texas Migrant Interstate Program (TMIP); Omar Chavez—Region One ESC; Jose Ybarra—San Felipe-Del Rio CISD, Luz Hinojosa—Migrant Student Graduation Enhancement Program at the University of Texas; Raul Cantu and Jose Guereca—TEA

**FIRST DAY**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The PAC president Lorena Cuellar began the meeting at 8:30 a.m. by welcoming everyone present. All State Parent Advisory Council (PAC) members introduced themselves to the council. Raul Cantu from TEA welcomed all present including the new member, San Juanita Manriquez, from Weslaco ISD to the State PAC.

**II. Review of the State PAC Minutes (Meeting of January 14-15, 2010)**

Maria Juarez and Minerva Maldonado read the PAC minutes from the previous meeting in Spanish; Juanita Borrego and Enid Lindsey read the PAC minutes in English. The PAC president asked if there were any corrections and there were some corrections made to the Spanish version. Juanita Borrego **moved for a motion to approve** the minutes and Minerva Maldonado **seconded the motion**. The minutes were **approved unanimously** with all appropriate corrections.

**III. Encouraging Parents for Children to Read**

Dolores Martinez provided a presentation on how to encourage parents to motivate their children to read using music. The presentation introduced a variety of songs that can be used for motivation while learning. It was concluded that listening to music can increase a child's interest in reading and learning.

**IV. Parents Assisting Children with Disabilities**

Lorena Cuellar introduced an excellent presentation on how migrant parents can assist their children with disabilities. The presentation highlighted the importance of knowing the unique educational needs of migrant children including learning disabilities.

**V. State PAC – Updates**

The following updates were shared with State PAC members:

- Members were informed that the 2010–2011 State PAC budget was increased.

- Jose Guereca talked about the plans for the new migrant early childhood curriculum. Juanita Borrego **made a motion** to include a section in the curriculum on training parents in topics such as: discipline, nutrition and how to become better parents. Dolores Martinez **seconded the motion** and it **passed unanimously**.

**VI. Input on How to Increase Parental Involvement (Activity)**

Raul Cantu shared activities, methods and strategies to increase parental involvement. The following topics were highlighted as being the most important to increase parental involvement:

- Personal contact
- Open communication
- Perseverance in maintaining participation
- Bilingual support
- Leadership and administrative support
- Focus on culture

**VII. Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)**

Not Covered

**VIII. Association of Migrant Educators of Texas (AMET)**

Not Covered

**IX. Other Business/Announcements**

The AFOP/AMET presenter was not able to attend the meeting; however, it was announced that a State PAC member would be chosen by the State to serve as an AMET member.

**X. Adjourn for the Day**

Lorena Cuellar stated that she appreciated everyone's attention and invited them back for the second day. She asked for a motion to adjourn for the day. Dolores Martinez **motioned for adjournment** and San Juanita Manriquez **seconded the motion**. The meeting was **adjourned unanimously** at 4:00 pm.

**SECOND DAY**

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by the president Lorena Cuellar and the day's agenda was reviewed.

**XI. Reflecting on the National Migrant Conference**

Dr. Cynthia Bebon provided an excellent summary on the national conference sharing the conference theme and objectives. Dr. Bebon mentioned that the next National Migrant Conference will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**XII. Texas Migrant Interstate Program: Out of State TAKS Testing**

Tomás Yáñez shared the purpose of the Texas Migrant Interstate Program (TMIP) and how the program works closely together with participating states like Arkansas, California, Colorado and Delaware in out of state TAKS Testing. He also talked about the New Generation System (NGS) and the Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX) system which are used to view important migrant student information.

**XIII. University of Texas Exemplary Migrant Student Ceremony**

Luz Hinojosa presented on the migrant program from the University of Texas in Austin. She mentioned that the program's mission was to help Texas migrant students graduate from high school. She also shared a

brochure with important information for migrant students and provided an overview of the UT Exemplary Migrant Student Ceremony.

**XIV. Certificates of Appreciation**

Raul Cantu from TEA presented and recognized members of the State PAC who completed their term. All State PAC members were recognized for their time, service, effort and commitment. The memberships that ended included Dolores Sanchez, Enid Lindsey and Felix Vazquez.

**XV. Reflections/Evaluations**

Members reflected on the experiences they lived while serving their PAC term. A special song was sung by guitarist Jose Ybarra Title I, Coordinator from San Felipe-Del Rio CISD along with all other male participants attending. The gesture of recognition was in observance of Mother's Day and to thank the state PAC parents for always being involved in their children's education.

**XVI. Other Business/Announcements**

As per the Bylaws, Juanita Posas' membership was terminated as a result of not attending the required number of State PAC meetings. On a different topic, a **motion** was made by Juanita Borrego to add one additional State PAC meeting. Dolores Martinez **seconded the motion** and the motion **passed unanimously**.

**XVII. Adjourn**

Lorena Cuellar, the State PAC president, thanked everyone and wished the group a safe trip back home. She asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. San Juanita Manriquez **motioned to adjourn** and Minerva Maldonado **seconded the motion**. A vote was held and **all voted to adjourn** the meeting at 11:56 a.m.