Superintendent’s Task Force on Early Childhood Education
October 11, 2006
3:30 – 5:00 pm
The United Way – 2000 Martin Luther King Blvd.

Attendance
Dr. Yolanda Rocha, Associate Superintendent of the South Elementary Schools for AISD
Ariel Cloud, Direct of Early Childhood for AISD
Janie Ruiz, Principal for Gullet Elementary, AISD
Peggy Cerna, Administrative Supervisor of Lucy Read Pre-School Demonstration School
Joey Crumley, Strategic Planner, AISD Office of Planning and Community Relations
Sam Bryant, Director AARO, Bryant Wealth Investment
Adrian Smith, Director, Success by 6
Kay Fowler, Director, Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Preschool
Chetan Makan, Pre-K Teacher, AISD Read Elementary
Carmel Borders, President of the Tapestry Foundation
Sue Carpenter, Program Coordinator, ELOA Grant
Dr. Mary Ellen Isaacs, Director, ACEE, UT Dana Center Americorps
Dr. Gale Spears, Early Childhood Director, Austin Community College Child Care C.
Dr. Pauline Walker, Kindergarten Teacher, AISD Maplewood Elementary
Rosario Samandi, Administrative Supervisor, AISD Pre-K Special Education
Laura Sandoval, Kindergarten Teacher, AISD Sunset Valley Elementary
Deb Hurst, Kindergarten teacher, AISD Mills Elementary
Rosalia Castaneda, Executive Director, AVANCE
Melissa Garcia, pre-k teacher for AISD
Guests:
Cathy Doggett, Early Childhood Specialist – ESC Region XIII

Agreements
Members of the Task Force will:....
• send edits to beliefs and assumptions to Janie Ruiz
• hold a work session to edit and agree on the three recommended models for serving pre-k at AISD on 10-16-06 at 3:30
• Janis, Ariel, Sam, and Yolanda will meet with Dr. Forgione to update on the Task Force’s progress on 10-18-06 at 3:30
• Review and discuss the agenda for the Open House for the Public at the EC Task Force meeting on 10-25-06
• Open House for the Public will be held on 11-7-06 to 11-9-06 at Wooldridge, Allan and Joslin Elementary. The meetings will be in an Open House format following a brief presentation. Light refreshments will be served.
• The Task Force report draft will be presented to the Superintendent’s Cabinet on 11-13-06. Leslie Loughmiller will get this item on the agenda.
• EC Task Force will hold an additional meeting on 11-15-06 from 3:30 to 5:00 at the United Way Waterloo Room to finalize the report.
• Joey Crumley will bring a copy of a previous narrative Task Force Report for us to view
• Sandy Dochen and Joey Crumley will review the report for editing
• The Task Force Report will be presented to the AISD board of trustees during

Meeting

3:30 Citizen’s Communication: Sam Bryant began the meeting by asking for any Citizen Communication input. There was nothing to report at this meeting.

3:35 Draft Outline of EC Task Force Report/Key Recommendations:
Janie Ruiz explained a pie graph that demonstrated the recommendations.
The Task Force Members reviewed the three recommended models for early childhood and discussed each recommended model that was presented at the Task Force Meeting held on 9-27-06. It was requested that amendments be added to the Minutes from 9-27-06 that would reflect the components outlined by the group who put together the Collaborative Partnership Model. Below are the Amendments to this model.

Amendments to Minutes from 9-27-06
Community Collaborative Partnership Model Amendments:
• Administration of both facilities would work together
• NAEYC standards
• Include standards that are in place for Elementary students
• Use the existing centers in the community and expand them and the services
• The Key partner would be Head Start
**Recommend a 2 year model: 1st year- families referred to community-based program, 2nd year – families are offered a choice at registration (partner when home school is overcrowded)
• Both facilities offer a full day service
• Propose a grant that would provide teachers with training in best guidance techniques, best practices, mental health, and social skills
• Look at offering pre-k to 3 and 4 year olds at community-based program
• The teachers are jointly hired by AISD and the Childcare Center Director
• The teachers are jointly supervised by AISD and the Childcare Center Director
• The teachers hold a degree with pre-k certification and has experience with young children
**Options: The centers serve 3 and 4 year olds in the same classrooms.
The centers add a small number of tuition paying students to the ISD class.
**It is recommended:
This would be a continued study and this model would be used when conditions arise. An Advisory committee would be formed with the Director of Early Childhood in AISD.

Dr. Gale Spears offered: Other Collaborative Possibilities:
*Mutual Learning supported by a grant: best guidance techniques, best practices for supporting children’s mental health, and social negotiation skills. Mutual Sharing:
*Elementary School Shares- school readiness expectations, curricular planning experience and materials, mental health resources.
*Child care Center shares- curricula and info about population served, knowledge of community resources and parenting supports.

Continued Meeting 10-11-06
Janie Ruiz discussed the Belief and Assumption statements that would be included in the report. The task force is to edit these statements and give edits to Janie to include in the report. It was suggested that in the belief statement regarding training in the area of social and emotional needs be added.

Things to Consider for the Recommendations:
It was suggested by Dr. Gale Spears that we invite Bruce Perry to talk about the social and emotional needs for early learners so that the Task Force Members have a better understanding of this area of need.

It was suggested that the TEEM Model that is currently being implemented in AISD, add a social/emotional component.

It was suggested that the Task Force consider offering a glance into the funding streams for each of the models and that the current funding being offered would need to be expanded.

4:35- Joey Crumley discussed the options and structure for the public forums. Joey explained that there would be several media announcements made through the newspaper, television, radio, and the website. Newsletters will go out and be highly publicized through the key communicators such as: the Chamber of Commerce and Education Austin.
Joey discussed the use of an Open House, Round Table Discussion, and then the Standard Public Forum way of talking to the public. It was suggested that the Task Force consider either the Open House or Round Table Discussion format for the forums. Joey also recommended that there be dinner or refreshments served at each of the forums.

5:15 - The meeting ended by reviewing the proposed timeline for finalizing and presenting the Task Force Report to the AISD board of trustees.