

**Spring Branch Independent School District
Agenda Item Information**

Date of Board Meeting: September 22, 2008

Subject: Request for Approval of the Alternative Learning Task Force

Administrator Responsible:

Name: Jennifer Blaine, Ed.D.

Position: Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Purpose of Agenda Item:

Information only Action needed Report

Additional Information and/or Back-Up:

The Alternative Learning Task Force Chartering Document is provided, along with copies of the task force's membership roster and the meeting schedule for 2008-2009.

Alternative Learning

Task Force Chartering Document

Official Designation

Alternative Learning Task Force

Purpose and Scope

In accordance with the Spring Branch ISD Five Year Educational Plan, the purpose of the Alternative Learning Task Force is to identify additional opportunities that allow SBISD students choice in how they engage in a rigorous and relevant education at the secondary level. The Alternative Learning Task Force will identify current practices in SBISD, and investigate other alternative practices in districts across the nation. Additionally, this Task Force will review the SBISD Visioning Document, review research and identify best practices and make recommendations to the SBISD Board of Trustees regarding alternative learning. Topics to be addressed include, but are not limited to:

- Virtual (On-line) learning
- Blended learning
- Credit Recovery
- Night School
- Credit by Exam
- Flexible Hours/Scheduling
- Accelerated Learning
- Project and Problem Based Learning
- Independent Study

This Task Force will conduct a thorough review of SBISD policy as it pertains to Alternative Learning and will make recommendations to the SBISD Board of Trustees regarding necessary policy changes that impact potential programming and opportunities for students.

The goal of the Alternative Learning Task Force is provide multiple opportunities and ways for students to be engaged in the learning process; and ultimately, to prepare all students for post secondary success.

Membership

There will be three chairpersons for the Alternative Learning Task Force:

- Randolph Adami, Principal, Northbrook High School
- Lisa Weir, Principal, Memorial Middle School
- Jill Wright, Director, Cornerstone Academy

There will be 40 members of the Alternative Learning Task Force, comprised of the following stakeholder groups:

- District Administrators
- Campus Administrators
- Teachers
- Parents
- Community
- Students

The Task Force will have balanced representation from both Title I and Non-Title I Campuses.

Meetings and Procedures

The Task Force will begin in October 2008 and complete their work in October 2009. Meetings will be held on the first and third Thursdays of the month, with the exception of December 2008, April 2009, May 2009, June 2009, July 2009 and August 2009. Meetings will be held from 4:00-6:00 in the evening and the location is to be determined. The Chairpersons will send the list of meeting dates, times and locations to all Task Force members in advance. Task Force updates to the Board of Trustees, as well as the Leadership Team will be sent out once a month in the form of Friday Notes. Additionally, the Task Force Chairpersons will prepare and distribute to all members a summary of each meeting.

Task Force members will not receive pay, allowances or benefits for their service on the Task Force. Meetings will be placed on the Professional Development Learning Center (PDLC) for non-contract professional development credit for SBISD teachers and administrators. Parents, students and community that elect to serve will do so voluntarily.

Products

The Associate Superintendent for Curriculum Instruction and the Associate Superintendent for Administration and Personnel will oversee the final presentation given to the Board in the Fall 2009. The final presentation will be given at a Board Workshop and will include, but not be limited to:

- A formal presentation
- Compilation of Task Force work:
 - Meeting Agendas
 - Notes
 - Task Force Membership
 - Research
 - Findings
 - Recommendations
 - Draft Policy (if applicable)

The members of the Alternative Learning Task Force will be informed of the time and location of the Board Workshop where the presentation is to be given so that they may be in attendance.

2008 Alternative Learning Task Force

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Administrators		
Name	Campus	Role/Title
Kolenda, Joe	Guthrie Center	Director
Kucera, Ann	Accountability & Research	Assessment Coordinator
Lockard, Lea Ann	School of Choice	Principal
Smith, Janet	WAIS	Coordinator Foreign Language
TBD		Administrator
TBD		Administrator
TBD		Administrator

Teachers – Secondary		
Name	Campus	Role/Title
Barger, Courtney	Landrum MS	Teacher
Barrett, Ellen	Northbrook MS	Teacher
Collier, Jennifer	Spring Forest MS	Teacher
Finch, Rachel	Spring Woods HS	Teacher
Gilbert, Charlene	Memorial MS	Teacher
Jaffer, Sara	Northbrook HS	Teacher
TBD	Cornerstone Academy	Teacher
TBD	Spring Branch MS	Teacher
TBD	Spring Oaks MS	Teacher
TBD	Spring Woods MS	Teacher
TBD	DAEP	Teacher
TBD	Memorial HS	Teacher
TBD	Stratford HS	Teacher
TBD	WAIS	Teacher
TBD	School of Choice	Teacher

Parents		
Name	Campus	Role/Title
DeRusso, Charles	Northbrook HS	Parent
Schipul, Rachel	Spring Forest MS	Parent
TBD	Cornerstone Academy	Parent
TBD	Landrum MS	Parent
TBD	Memorial MS	Parent
TBD	Northbrook MS	Parent
TBD	Spring Branch MS	Parent
TBD	Spring Oaks MS	Parent
TBD	Spring Woods MS	Parent
TBD	School of Choice	Parent
TBS	Memorial HS	Parent
TBD	Spring Woods HS	Parent
TBD	Stratford HS	Parent
TBD	WAIS	Parent

Alternative Learning Task Force Meeting Schedule 2008-2009

Meeting Date	Time	Location
October 9 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
October 23 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
November 6 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
November 13 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
December 4 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
January 8 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
January 22 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
February 5 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
February 19 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
March 5 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
March 26 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
May 7 <i>(Thursday)</i>	4:00-6:00	Cornerstone Academy - Library
September 2009 TBD	TBD	TBD
October 2009 TBD	TBD	TBD

(Snacks will be served at these meetings.)