

Minutes for TMECHS Advisory Meeting December 14, 2020-- 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Linnea Wiggs, Sal Ramirez, Richard Couder, Cuyler Anderson, Lauren Cano, Vanessa Bretado-Monroy, Rene Chavez, Janet Eveler, Viviana Maguire, Mario Badillo, Ernest R. Webb, Rosario Miller, Katherine Mulane-Elrick, Barbara Brinkley-Lopez

1. Welcome given to new positions @ TMECHS: Katherine Mulane-Elrick, new Assistant Principal for TMECHS and Rosario Miller, new ALL for TMECHS
2. Principal Updates by Mrs. Barbara Lopez: EPISD is currently in the Red Zone and will begin the Spring semester in the Red Zone and will continue the Learning Pod model with 25 percent of students who chose Face to Face instruction and transition to 50 percent as we enter the Orange Zone.
3. Mrs. Lopez displayed the traffic flow chart for TMECHS and the location of the Temperature Check Kiosks. The Temperature Check will alert at 100.0 temperature read. The kiosks are located in the Principals' office, Assistant Principal's office, Nurse's office, Mr. Esparza's classroom, and the attendance office. There is also a contactless thermometer. Every classroom is supplied with face masks, latex gloves, and wipes. There are also a hand-sanitizing stations throughout the school.
4. The faculty restroom is completed, and teachers have access to the facilities with their classroom key. Paper towel and soap dispensers are still needed.
5. TMECHS is very limited in space and 2 teachers will be floating and 2 or 3 staff members share classrooms/portable.
6. Mrs. Lopez requested Parking Spaces to be repainted and redesignated. Currently, TMECHS does not need 3 parking spaces for cafeteria staff. EPCC will see where funding will be possible and copy Mrs. Lopez in emails to Rick Lovato.
7. Mrs. Lopez stated that 6 teachers qualified for ADA and will remain virtual as well as 2 counselors. Meeting with EPCC must remain virtual.
8. Mrs. Lopez asked for assistance with students who will be taking classes at EPCC. Because EPCC will remain virtual for Spring 2021, students need a place to go while attending online classes. The foyer or library was suggested. However, before any public space is made available to TMECHS students, EPCC must go before the Safety Task Force. If public space is open, safety protocols tend to be broken. TMECHS is very limited in staff/space to monitor students.
9. Counselors discovered that EPCC was offering mini-mesters and students had to drop and add other courses. Speech, Government, and Art were changed to mini-mesters and this created a problem for TMECHS students. Dean Eveler stated that she would work with the counselors to help with this situation.
10. ECHS Redesignation application 2021-22 is due Jan. 6th, 2021 and should be scanned and emailed.
11. TMECHS counselors ask for better communication from EPCC because students are dropped without counselor and student knowledge. Instructors reserve have the right to drop students and communicate only with students. Mrs. Lopez stated that students are minors and dropped students greatly impede the processes of TMECHS for

counselors/students. Counselors are concerned about Academic Probation or Suspension for students.

12. There will be flexibility with students during the pandemic and EPCC will allow students on Academic Suspension to enroll in 2 classes depending on the circumstances. Priority will be given to Seniors and Juniors.
13. TMECHS asked for students to be able to take part in the "Early Alert Program".
14. EPCC grades are due Dec. 15th and on Dec. 16th Academic Standings will be updated. Counselors will meet with Vanessa at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 18 to discuss students.
15. Richard Couder asked about financial aid impact for students who are failing. The failures count as attempted hours. When students transfer to a 4-year institution, it is up to that institution if they release financial aid based on the transcript that the students took the course while in high school during the pandemic.
16. Graduation updates: There were 29 early graduates. One-third of Seniors graduated early. Students ordered and paid for their cap and gown from Jostens and there was a distribution on Saturday along with a school-provided lunch.
17. Registration for 2021--Mrs. Elrick stated that 110 Acceptance Letters were sent today and TMECHS hopes to have a bigger freshman class. EPISD has moved up the dates for 8th graders applying to different high school programs. TMECHS is required to have open access to enrollment and an extended recruitment. TMECHS needs help getting the word out about the Early College and Richard Couder extended an offer to help.
18. Sal Ramirez gave an update on TSI testers: 81% have passed but 18% to 19% still need to pass Reading/ Writing. All students will take the new Math TSI in 2021. Readiness Standards have been updated for students who have not passed TSI.
19. Rene Chavez reminded everybody about Faculty Development Week for EPCC and the EPCC dashboard has many new features for students/instructors.
20. Cuyler Anderson and Lauren Cano introduced themselves from the Gifted and Talented Department.