**School Improvement Team May 4, 2023 @ 1:15pm**

**Present** Brenda Ulrich, Chairperson Barbara Coble, Co-Chair

Briana Brandon, Interpreter Michele Handley, Guest

Melissa Chatman Tafie Henson

Fallon DiBlasio Sue Weber, Community Representative

Stephanie Slade, Parent Representative LaRee Langley, Record Minutes

**Absent** Patricia Hart Tracy Cockrell

Barbie Coble opened the meeting with a review of the last meeting notes.

New Business - Brenda Ulrich

Wanted to give you an update about our situation (principal resigned & assistant retired), this was out of our control. Things will be a little chaotic, but we will focus on our accreditation at a later date.

This meeting we will share our Strategic Plan that will begin in August of this year and extend out for the next 5 years. The Strategic Plan was displayed, and each section was reviewed by Brenda Ulrich. The School Vision, Mission, Belief Statement, and Motto were read. Brenda explained how we selected the priorities by level of seriousness and urgency. The team reviewed each Priority, along with the Task and Architect who will be the leader of the specific task and will solicit assistance from others to focus on completing the task in the timeframe stated. Comments and questions were:

How can we assist with this plan? *As the SIT Team we will work together to support and help with this plan.*

What are the dates and reason for the dates. *This is a 5-year plan, and each task was discussed, and a timeframe was set. Research Based Instruction (RBI) and High Leverage Practices (HLP) were explained and discussed.*

Is this nationwide regarding the research for the Curriculum? *Yes, a lot of searching will go into this, some will be hard to find. Each curriculum will need to be selected to align with the State Standards.*

A question was asked about the difficulty for some students to meet State Standards. *Each student’s goal would be to reach their highest potential to align with the State Standards.*

Question about the language barriers for students who may begin with little or no sign language when they begin here and how they would catch up? *We would still have them endeavor to reach toward the State Standards to the best of their ability.*

We have students that can read, but don’t understand what they are reading. It would be hard for them to take test. Do they have assistance with test? *No, the rule is you must take the test for the curriculum you follow. It is very important that we keep our expectations high. Our job is to set them up for their best success. The State Standards would be their best movements toward that goal. We should focus on the challenges, or we do not grow. The point is to say this is where we are, this is where we want to go, and this is how we get there.*

We should start from where the student is and move forward. Will the new board make a difference? *We are a State school and must follow the State rules.*

Brenda stated we will be developing and implementing these priorities, trying to start as soon as July of 2023/2024 school year. Each priority was read and reviewed for Architect and dates.

A discussion took place about the priority of developing the workforce here at ENCSD. Coordination and cooperating with other schools to develop students into teachers or staff to work at our school. Dr. Handley gave an example, a student who has attended track meets here recently is taking ASL as her foreign language in the 10th grade. She has inquired just this past week about coming to visit and shadow our interpreter or teacher to learn more about ASL. We discussed setting up a shadowing program here and to partner up with schools to maybe build interest in working at our school. There was discussion and suggestions of ways to improve our collaboration with the community.

The Strategic Plan has been placed on the school website for all to review. Dr. Handley will follow-up to make sure the plan can be seen correctly.

Brenda mentioned it was decided that due to the circumstances we have found ourselves in (principal position being vacant), we have decided no to meet again for the remainder of this school year. We appreciate each and every one of you. Dr. Handley stated the SIT team would develop plans to be aligned with our Strategic Plan when we begin meeting again next year. The team will focus on accreditation again next year. The Strategic Plan and the accreditation plan will become companion plans.

Barbie asks if there were any pluses:

* Very informative and interesting
* Able to learn and ask questions and that would make us better prepared for next year.

Delta’s

* Need to add more to the team, can we request additional members?

*Dr Handley: Membership is for 2-year appointments, so we will have the same team for next year. However, we will be pulling in other staff to help us to achieve our task and goals.*

* *This is going to be a challenge, but even outside of the school here there are challenges everywhere with filling positions.*
* *Dr. Handley: We need to work as a Team to have positive influences on these changes. This team is meant to be a leadership team and that should be your role to define what you are saying and doing is positive.*

Barbie stated the meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm and we will see you in the fall.