

## *Region IX P-16 Council*

*June 2, 2009*

### *Minutes*

The P-16 meeting began at 8:30 a.m. at Region IX on Tuesday, June 2, 2009. In attendance: Kristin Morris-Wells Fargo, Dr. Grant Simpson-MSU, Jessica Sutherland- Vernon College, Dr. Shelley Sweatt-BISD, Kristen Watts - Community Foundation, Deborah Cornelius – P-16 , Wes Pierce – Region IX, Billie Gorham P-16 Counselor, Melissa Yip – P-16 Counselor.

The P-16 Meeting began with a look at the P-16 Web-site and our calendar of events. The Council discussed recent presentations and future presentations of our P-16 Council.

Thank you notes were presented to Council members from different entities.

Dr. Simpson reported on plans for August in incorporating our efforts with Pre K to school readiness with education students and the new certification requirements. Puppets and Puppet Show Stage have been purchased and the Council is excited to move forward this fall on reaching these young students.

Camp Beyond dates are June 15, 2009 – June 19, 2009. The Council is excited about the “traveling” business expo each of the campers will receive. To encourage students to “go beyond” their high school education, Camp Beyond students will actually get a chance to visit on site four local businesses where they will not only get a tour, but learn what education they may need to be successful after high school at these businesses. The four participating businesses are: United Regional Health Care Systems, ABB, ATT Call Center on Kell Boulevard, and Howmet . The Council is thankful to these businesses for their willingness to plant a seed of success with our Camp Beyond Campers. The campers will also have an opportunity to visit NCTC in Bowie, Texas (petroleum engineering program), Vernon College’s North Texas Tech Prep, as well as the hands on Nursing Simulation at URHCS that MSU and Vernon students receive training.

Summer Bridge Experiences are in full swing will be a wonderful experience for these at risk incoming freshman. Wichita Falls ISD, Vernon ISD, Burkburnett ISD, and Iowa Park CISD are all gearing up with our Council in this endeavor. The dates for each district are on our website calendar and Council members are encouraged to attend when possible to get a feel for what goes on and see firsthand the difference our Council and these districts are making in students’ lives.

Our P-16 Council is proud and excited to join forces with Workforce Solutions in a Business Leaders' Summit, this October 2009. Mona Statser and Deb Cornelius will be sending more information on planning sessions to come.

Diann Taylor updated the Council on the Student Achievement Initiative and its success. The Council was thanked for their involvement with these 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Next P-16 Meeting date: July 7, 2009, 8:30 a.m. at Region IX