



# College Station Independent School District

Success....each life....each day....each hour

## CSISD School Board Meeting

**To:** CSISD School Board  
**From:** Eddie Coulson, Acting Superintendent  
**Date:** August 10, 2006  
**Priorities:** Priorities 1, 2 and 3: Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5  
**Agenda:** I - 1  
**Re:** Schlechty Center for Leadership and School Reform

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eddie Coulson", is written over the "From:" line of the memo.

### Background

Dr. Phil Schlechty is a national and international leader in current educational leadership and educational trends. The Schlechty Center for Leadership and School Reform (SCLSR) is an established hub of educational research that provides leadership and educational consulting services to districts in the United States, Canada and Europe. Last summer, CSISD sent twenty two school administrators to the SCLSR Principal's Academy in San Antonio, Texas.

Based on the quality of the academy and the significant learning that took place at the academy, the school administrators had a strong desire for CSISD to establish a relationship with the SCLSR. As a result, CSISD began its partnership with the SCLSR during the 2005-2006 school year. As part of that partnership, two senior associate representatives from the SCLSR visited CSISD for two days last January and helped us to continue to develop ideas related to student engagement, teacher leadership, and the administrative support necessary for teachers and schools. In addition, several administrators and teachers attended a conference sponsored by the SCLSR in April, 2006. At this conference we began the process of learning about the Design Qualities of Lessons that are taught by the SCLSR. All who attended the conference (teachers and administrators) agreed that CSISD should continue working to advance the ideas associated with student engagement and the Design Qualities of Lessons.

By continuing the partnering with the SCLSR, CSISD will be able to tap into the expertise at the SCLSR so that our principals and teachers will have access to some significant and meaningful staff development. Our continued partnership will allow us to expand the learning that has already taken place by our staff through the Essential Elements of Instruction and Curriculum Mapping initiatives that were established several years ago. The SCLSR focuses its attention on how to get students engaged in school so that students are able have significant long term learning.

The SCLSR provides a nice balance for us as we attempt to maximize our state assessment scores, while providing a quality education for students that focuses on long term learning. Though the ideas supported by the SCLSR are fairly simple, the strategies associated with helping administrators and teachers are complex and require some focused energy.

This will be the second year of a three year commitment to the SCLSR, and the cost will be the same as last year's cost (\$50,000). The cost will be paid from our Title II federal grant. All Title II money must be spent on staff development initiatives

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the CSISD School Board approve the payment to the Schlechty Center for Leadership and School Reform in the amount of \$50,000 for the 06-07 school year.