

Community Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Metro Activity Center

September 27, 2018

In attendance: Jeff Wood, Melanie Fox, Larry Clark, Mike Poore

- I. Welcome, Greetings, Norms
 - a. Board President Jeff Wood opened the meeting, welcomed the community, and reviewed norms for the meeting.
- II. Celebrations presented by Superintendent Poore
 - a. Middle School Project Based Learning Initiative at Horace Mann in partnership with the LRPD Crime Scene Investigation Department
 - b. Peace Day Celebrations at McDermott, Gibbs and LR Central High School
 - c. Transfer of Gilliam Building to Watershed; sold to Watershed for \$10
 - d. "Feet to the Seat" Chronic Truancy and Grade Level Reading Campaign Kick-Off
 - e. Coca-Cola Teacher of the Year prize
 - f. Stacy McAdoo, teacher at Central High, is a semi-finalist for AR Teacher of the Year
- III. District Improvement Plan
 - a. Superintendent Poore presented the Plan
 - i. Highlights of the Plan
 1. Professional Learning Communities are being used to help staff become stronger instructors
 - a. Feeder Pattern Approach
 - b. Provided by Solution Tree
 2. RISE Training Initiative
 3. All new materials for Secondary Literacy classes
 4. Dyslexic Specialist to be hired.
 - a. Mr. Poore answered questions from Mrs. Fox about the comparison of the District's numbers vs. the national average
 5. Full-time Science Specialist has been hired.
 6. Measures of Academic Performance assessments being used to measure students learning and progress.
 7. Crisis Prevention Intervention training to lower student suspension rates
 8. Improvement of District Operations
 - a. Human Resources: Staff Onboarding and Professional Development systems improvement
 - b. Improvement of Master Schedules
 - c. Long-range Facility Plan being developed with surveys from the Community and data from the Community Blueprint Meetings which have been held earlier this month.
 - i. The final recommendation of the facility plan will be present to the Board in October.

- ii. Questions from the Board were related to how parents will receive results from the MAP assessments taken in October.
- IV. Exemplar School Improvement Plans
 - a. School Improvement Plan was Otter Creek Elementary (Principal Wendy Minor and staff)
 - i. Highlights of the Plan
 - 1. Culture and Climate: Essential 55 from the Ron Clark Academy; the House System; Daily Class Meetings; Incentive Field Trips; Daily Character Building
 - 2. High Expectations: Weekly PLC Meetings; School-wide Reading Plan; School-wide Intervention Time
 - 3. Student Support Services: Wrap-around Services; School-based Mental Health program; After School Tutoring
 - 4. Academic Programs: Reading Teacher; Title I Academic Intervention Specialist; Lexia Reading, RTI; Accelerated Reading
 - 5. Enrichment: National Steppers Jump Rope Team; Student Council
 - 6. Data Review of NWEA Map Growth K-2
 - 7. Data Review of ACT Aspire Summative Assessment data
 - 8. Review of Goals in Leadership, Student Achievement, and Culture
 - a. The group answered questions from Mr. Wood about the methods that will specifically be used to meet goals. They also answered questions about challenges they are addressing through their goals.
 - b. Board Member Larry Clark commended the Otter Creek group for their work with the students
 - c. Dr. Sadie Mitchell answered questions from Mr. Wood about the utilization of Accelerated Reader program district-wide and other literacy software programs used in the District. Mr. Wood encouraged the District to set the expectation that all schools would highly incentivize reading through Accelerated Reading.
 - b. School Improvement Plan presented by Pulaski Heights Middle School principal, Darryl Powell
 - i. Highlights of the Plan
 - 1. Continue Tradition of Excellence
 - a. Expansion of GT Science courses
 - b. Pursuit of STEAM recognition
 - 2. Focus Areas
 - a. Leadership: Professional Learning Communities
 - b. Effective Instructional Practices: Grade level collaborations; review of assessment data to focus instruction on areas of weakness; School-wide reading initiative; UALR tutoring partnership; expansion of Gifted and Talented program; disciplinary literacy; project-based learning partnership with Central AR Water

- c. Student Growth and Achievement: use data for correct placement; improvement in student achievement
 - d. Culture: Safe Environment and Parent Involvement
 - e. Celebrations Overview
 - 3. Mr. Powell answered questions from Mrs. Fox about the Board about specific initiatives being used to achieve goals presented. He also answered questions from Mr. Wood about readiness levels. Mr. Powell answered questions from Mr. Wood about the school's parent involvement plan. Mr. Powell said that the school will host events at the school and will reach out to parents by going out into the community. He then answered questions about the suspension rates. Mr. Powell said that teacher attendance at Pulaski Heights is good.
 - 4. Mr. Wood asked Mrs. Minor about teacher attendance at Otter Creek. She said that according to the most recent attendance audit, their attendance is great.
- V. 2017-2018 Budget Finalization
 - a. Mr. Poore presented an overview of the budget presentation. Kelsey Bailey, Chief Financial Officer, presented the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 budgets.
 - b. Highlights of the presentation included comparisons in tax revenue; loss of revenue tied to meal applications; loss of funds tied to desegregation settlement; facility improvements, decrease in staffing and excess vacancies; personnel expenses; debt service transfers, salary bonuses for 2017-2018; overall decrease in fund balance by about \$10M.
 - c. The Board did not have a quorum to vote to approve the budget.
- VI. Policy Development
 - a. First Readings – Sections 1, 2, 3 and 8
 - i. Eric Walker, Staff Attorney, reviewed sections 1 and 2. There were no questions from the Board. Mr. Walker then reviewed section 3 and addressed questions from the Board concerning teacher assignment, employee background checks, removal of students from the classroom, master schedule responsibilities. Mr. Walker reviewed section 8. There were no questions from the Board.
 - b. Second Reading – Section 4.4
 - i. Eric Walker reviewed section 4.4 which outlined guidelines for approval of student transfer outside of the District.
 - ii. The Board did not have a quorum to vote to approach the policy revisions.
- VII. Social Media – Media Impact
 - a. Pamela Smith, Communications Director, presented an overview of the District's approach to social media and the utilization of Meltwater, a software program that aggregates data from various social media platforms to offer an overall picture of public sentiment. Ms. Smith answered questions from the Board.
- VIII. Community Comments – There were no comments from the public.
- IX. Board Comments

- a. Mr. Wood asked Mr. Poore to give a brief overview of the next steps for the master facility plan. Mr. Poore reminded the audience that they can complete a survey before and after the recommendation of the plan is presented to the public.
- X. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm