ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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ACE Meeting Minutes

The purpose of the Advisory Council for Education is to provide a systematic representative public involvement in educational decisions under consideration by the Board of Directors.

Jan. 7, 2019
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Call to order
6:04 p.m.

Members Present
Maggie Bagwell, Laura Bailey, Terrie Bertrand, Sarah Blake, Sarah Cofer, Erika Coghill, Kari Henderson-Burke, Judy Fay, Jen Fuller, Bentley Griffith, FaithHolden, Mary Levesque, Pearl McInally, Kirahy Meyers, Will Nelson, Gary Sabol, Chrys Sweeting

Guests Present
Brian Lewis

Approve minutes
Erika Coghill made a motion to approve the Dec. 3, 2018 meeting minutes. Sarah Blake seconded. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

Research Projects- School Schedule
Sarah put together a document after research she conducted. Her focus was outside states. Dr. Sweeting said we need some time to read it so we can talk about it at the next meeting. Sarah will guide us through this document at the next meeting.

Dr. Sweeting had the group reflect on four questions:

1. Yes, Arlington needs to change school schedules because...

   - Hard on a mom to get kids to school and activities (Seattle Schools changed schedules this year. Bellingham is in their second year)

2. No, Arlington does not need to change school schedules because...

3. I'm curious about ...

   - Parents and teachers would welcome more consistent teacher workday

4. I need more information about ...

   - Seattle and Bellingham have changed their schedules. Need information about tardiness and test scores.
   - Finland's Professional Learning Communities: Teachers create the lesson, they teach, and evaluate. (Lesson studies)
   - Finland- What success are we talking about? Are students graduating with more opportunities? Attending more?
   - 6 to 8 class choices (i.e. Bellingham), 24 credit requirement

Dr. Sweeting would like one or two people to join her in heading up this project.

Equity and Cultural Competence- Circle Activity
Will told the committee what an equity circle is. He went through the talking guidelines. Speak from heart, listen with heart, speak with respect, listen with respect, honor confidentiality. The goal was to get student perspectives on equity. Build more culturally responsive and equitable learning environments.

1. Have you experienced or seen someone who has been left out? How does this impact your schooling experience?
   - Heard about homelife, appearances, changing schools, language barriers
2. Names or labels you hear at school or on social media. How are those names or labels used?
3. If you were the principal, what would you do to help increase equity at the school? Buddy bench, activities that everyone could participate in, commonality- all humans, all have hopes and dreams, take a chance

Bond
Executive Director of Operations, Brian Lewis, provided the committee with a bond update. He focused on four areas:

1. How is the bond different this time?

   - Reduced from $107.5 million to $96 million
   - Projects removed from bond proposal

2. What will this bond do?

   - Replace inefficient, unsecure Post Middle School
   - Install fire suppression at Eagle Creek
   - Security upgrades at all schools
   - Add 8 classrooms to AHS
   - Improve heating and cooling at Eagle Creek, Kent Prairie, and Weston
   - Improve traffic safety at Eagle Creek, Kent Prairie and Post
   - Make district eligible for $11.5 million in state matching funds

3. What will this bond cost?

   - Tax collection begins in 2021
   - Tax calculator online to determine cost for your home

4. What happens if this bond does not pass?

   - Post students and staff continue to deal with limitations of current building
   - Facing the inevitable: Failure of heat pumps at Post
   - Traffic safety hazards at Post, Eagle Creek and Kent Prairie
   - All schools' students and staff remain exposed to security concerns
   - AHS becomes overcrowded in 2022
   - Cost escalation drives up construction costs

Closing
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 4