

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.

**Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2016
6:30-8:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

Jenny Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members Present

Lisa Bruce, Cathy Clark Smith, Kathy Ehman, Pedro Gonzales, Sheri Kelly, Mary Levesque, Mike Ray, Evie Rolston, Gary Sabol, Chrys Sweeting, Marcy Taylor and Jenny Taylor.

Members Absent

Linda Bollinger, Therese Hering, Anita Kulper, Kimberly Meno, Casey Miller and Hanna Novoy.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Ray made a motion to approve the June 6, 2016 minutes. Pedro Gonzales seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

ACE Member Commitments for 2016-17

Committee members went around the table and introduced themselves.

Jenny Taylor talked about vacancies on the committee. She explained that the two-year terms end with the September meeting and new terms start with the October meeting. She asked committee members to contact her about ways to fill the open positions. The vacancies comprise of parent, student and community member representative openings. There are 13 openings that need to be filled.

According to the Rules of Order for the Advisory Council for Education, the council shall consist of the following:

- 10 citizen-parents (each board member appointing two);
- 10 members from the community (one from each of the nine schools as appointed by the principal plus one appointed by the superintendent);
- One certificated teacher representative appointed by the superintendent;
- One classified employee representative appointed by the superintendent;
- One administrative representative appointed by the superintendent; and
- Six student representatives (two from Arlington High School, two from Weston and two from SVLC) appointed through the student Board of Directors representative selection process or principal recommendation.
- The superintendent and a district-provided recording secretary will provide support to the council but will be non-voting members.

The recording secretary will send an email out to former members of the committee informing them of the need for members.

Assessments Presentation:

Presenter: Eric DeJong, Executive Director of Teaching & Learning

Mr. DeJong gave an update on the Smarter Balanced assessment results from the spring. The Smarter Balanced assessments are online tests. He compared spring 2015 to spring 2016. Several schools field tested the assessments so were familiar with the tests. Overall, there was improvement districtwide in the assessment results and the results were above the state average in most categories. He showed grade by grade comparisons for English language arts (ELA) and math assessments from 2015 to 2016.

He also showed the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) assessment results for fifth- and eighth-grade science. The MSP assessments are still a hard copy exam. Mr. DeJong also showed the End-of-Course (EOC) biology assessment results for the 10th-grade.

Mr. DeJong said that school administration and teachers spent a lot of time looking at data to determine how they can change strategies to improve student achievement. This was one factor for the improved scores in 2016. He also showed a graph displaying fewer numbers of students receiving free or reduced price meals. This can also be a factor in performance.

Mr. DeJong concluded his presentation by showing the Data Dashboard on the district website (under Quick Links). The Data Dashboard shows comparisons from year to year in different categories.

Future Topics

Ms. Taylor asked committee members to look at the meeting schedule for the upcoming year. She asked committee members what they would like to see in upcoming meetings. Future topics included:

- College and Career Ready/Naviance/Advisory for May.
- School Attendance
- High School involved in younger grades/peer mentoring for November. (Presenter- Evie Rolston)
- Mental health, depression and suicide awareness (maybe in tandem with a drug awareness event)
- Social Media/Anti Bullying

District Updates

Dr. Sweeting provided several updates from the district:

- The Great Shakeout is scheduled to take place on Oct. 20 at 10:20 a.m. This is an earthquake preparedness drill.
- The district has appointed Christine Hinojosa as the interim high school principal. Administrators are working to fill her vacant role with an interim assistant principal.
- The first week of school went well. The superintendent took a bus tour with the mayor on Sept. 13. Enrollment numbers are down about 70 students from the budgeted amount. A lot of this has to do with a lower than expected kindergarten class.

Cathy Clark Smith made a motion to adjourn and Mary Levesque seconded the motion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gary Sabol
Public Information Officer

Next Meeting: Oct. 3, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.