

Community Advisory Minutes for December 18, 2018

Quorum achieved meeting called to order at 6:31pm.

Committee Members in Attendance: Karen Harkins Slocomb (Chair), Melissa Lazaro, Tiffany King, Gina Zanolini, Frida Brunzell, Bernard Larsen, Etis Fathy, Rosabel Santos, Heather Plotzke

Not present: Anna Quint, Shelley Wright, Cheryl Hernandez, David Choi, Sheila Keesling

District Liaisons: Greg Mizel, Lorelei Olsen

Public Comments were received.

November 2018 minutes reviewed and approved.

Local Plan & Governance Reports/Updates:

Local plan: Governance report (members, Karen, Tiffany, Cheryl, Heather)

-The CAC discussed whether re-writing the Local Plan is a function of the CAC. Objection was voiced that it should be a district-led task. General consensus is that the CAC as a whole should/could take on responsibility.

-Discussed how to obtain information that needs to be updated. Concluded could be obtained via district resources and publications and added to CAC Local Plan.

-Discussed role of a program specialist in an IEP meeting, as well as role program specialists play in training of staff etc. Tiffany King explained how program specialists participate college and career night as well as SCIA and IA trainings (coming up in February).

-CAC discussed what role program specialists do or should play (e.g. being the provider for specific approaches, technologies, methodologies etc.) as opposed to generalized trainings to serve staff/parents as a whole and suggested district could revise the job description for use in the Local Plan.

-CAC and district liaisons agreed program specialist job description to be provided by the district.

-Sub-committee proposed all members read and review purpose and description section of Local Plan along with "Special Education Responsibilities" section. Other sections were delegated to district personnel versus CAC.

Subcommittee Reports:

External communications subcommittee report presented by Melissa.

Recommendations included adding links for disability specific resources, a link to parent liaison for PUSD, special education flow chart manual, acronyms, list of service providers, as well as services and IEP timeline information, adding a mainline phone number, adding short video(s) discussing tools, compassion, and grieving, as well as links to special education foundation, and a website map.

CAC Internal Communications subcommittee. Anna, Gina, Shelly and David installed SLACK and have internally communicated on it. David found it especially useful for sending quick messages to each other on the sub-committee. Subcommittee recommends different subcommittees or groups could create different “channels” on Slack and use it to communicate internally if they wanted to. One example is a SEAC channel - if someone cannot make the event in a last minute bind they can quickly let everyone else know and someone else can go if they have availability.

Support subcommittee. Gina and David. They have 4 ideas to move forward with but are shelving two of those ideas for the time being (resource table at every meeting and in-person support groups). The other 2 they will follow up on are a flyer or handout to be given at initial assessments which talks about CAC/Support Committee/Gina directly and explicitly - also to “advertise” the availability to seek information (not advice) directly with the committee and/or the CAC meetings (before, during or after the CAC meeting).
2. Our “Dear Gina” column to start off initially as a FAQ type of document with a few generically labeled questions that can be answered by Gina (or others on the committee). David asked CAC for ideas on how do we broadcast this to the community, to be shared at a subsequent meeting.

Membership subcommittee

- Concerns expressed about disparity of representation for people from specific geographic parts of district.
- Concerns about members’ abilities to attend meeting regularly and whether their membership should continue.
- Vote for approval of Alex Sparks, school psychologist replacing vacant committee position with CAC. Motion made and seconded; vote taken, and her membership was unanimously approved.

Special Education Foundation Presentation

Presentation from special education foundation chairman, Mark Exley

- Explained origin and purpose of foundation
- Discussed goal of raising of monies to further support programs and students.
- Took general questions from public members and CAC members.
- Shared over \$100,000 raised; spent those monies within the district with the goal of every school feeling touched by these resources.
- CAC discussed with Mark structure of governance as well as record keeping (meeting minutes etc.) and invited him to return to the January meeting.

District Liaison Reports

-Lorelei Olsen, SPED director, shared that PUSD is working on setting up a PUSD email designated to the SPED foundation.

-Also shared how foundation uses the monies donated. Monies designated for items to support students. These mini-grants are applied for by PUSD, SPED personnel, a committee reviews, when approved, grant funded. Criterion for grant decisions shared.

Greg Mizel, Assistant Superintendent Student Services report:

-question posed regarding whether there was a directive to remove specific class names or titles (e.g. autism class). Director shared that no directive given to subversively change IEP class names.

-Superintendent shared that PUSD is still striving towards a full(er) inclusion model.

-nine schools have submitted applications to be considered model school as district transitions.

-Superintendent working with schools on self-defining what LRE looks like at their schools.

-Proposals will not likely not be implemented to next year.

- Decisions and implementations will not be done abruptly.

- Least restrictive environment will NOT mean there will not be more restrictive environments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm