

## **Community Advisory Council Meeting March 19, 2019**

The Community Advisory Council met on Tuesday, March 20, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Education offices in Westminster.

### **Organizational Discussion**

The Community Advisory Council and the Board of Education are looking for suggestions on how to better utilize the Council. CAC is assigned topics to work on by the Board of Education or CAC can seek permission from the Board to study a particular topic of interest. The CAC bylaws state that CAC has the authority to create subcommittees if a topic needs to be studied by a smaller group for presentation to the entire group. However, CAC has not been given many assignments. Topics thought to be of interest by CAC members are behavioral issues in schools, staffing levels, and types of staff at different schools. It was also suggested that CAC could be utilized during the revisiting of the out-of-district policy.

CAC is part of the CCPS Strategic Plan, Pillar 2 – Strengthen Productive Family and Community Partnerships. As part of the plan, CAC needs to have 85% attendance by 2018-2019 and 100% attendance by 2022-2023.

Discussion took place on how we can market CAC, advertise its existence and purpose, and get attendance from all of the schools. Suggestions included:

### Meetings:

- Schedule the first meeting of the year in August.
- Do not schedule meetings in September or May.
- Consider scheduling meetings on an as-needed basis.
- Look at the meeting times/dates. Are the meetings too often, not often enough?
- Have CAC meet less but utilize subcommittees for some of the work that needs to be done. The subcommittees can report back to the entire Council.
- Ask current CAC members to reach out to other CAC members in their feeder-school area so that if a member cannot attend a meeting, they have someone that can represent them and share meeting information.
- Have a CAC representative attend Board of Education meetings to represent the Council.
- Have CAC members attend some of the community town meetings hosted by the Superintendent and Board president.

### Assignments:

- At the first meeting of the year, present assignments for the year from the Board of Education.
- CAC needs more assignments from the Board of Education.
- Since CAC is the voice of the parents, provide members with meeting agendas further in advance in order to have time to solicit input from parents to bring to the meeting.
- When the Board knows that particular topics will be coming up, CAC needs time to discuss the topics, solicit feedback, and prepare a report.

### Membership:

- Make sure that information about the Council and minutes from the meetings are shared with principals.
- Create a consistent way for CAC representatives to share information with their school community.

- Make sure principals understand the importance of filling the CAC representative positions for each school.
- Survey CAC members to find out why some members are not attending.

#### Miscellaneous:

- More needs to be done to show the “weight and value” of CAC as well as the influence the Council has.

#### Outreach:

The following suggestions were made regarding marketing and outreach:

- Share the roster of members on the CCPS website.
- Have the name of the CAC member on each school’s website.
- Market the Council to all parents through a series of flyers and messages.
- Have individual schools market the Council to their parents.
- Look into what other counties are doing – every county in Maryland is supposed to have a parent group such as CAC. How do other counties form, advertise and use their CAC equivalent board?
- Create a consistent way for CAC representatives to share information with their school community.
- Have CAC representatives attend and be introduced at back to school nights.
- Send something out to all parents letting them know that CAC is meeting.
- Send out minutes system-wide to all parents and show who does and does not attend.

#### **Updates and School Announcements**

- June 18 is currently the last day of school for students. This will be an early dismissal day. Days were added to the end of the school calendar to account for using more than the allotted snow days. This was done because the school system must show that it tried to make up the missed days before a waiver would be approved.
- The March for Our Schools took place on March 11. CCEA would like to thank all who attended. There were approximately 8,500 marchers. CCEA now asks parents and community members to contact their legislature to support House Bill HB1413 and Senate Bill SB1030 and the Blueprint for Future Education.
- Oklahoma Road Middle School has rescheduled the showing of “Screenagers” for April 16.
- Because of an incident that happened at Oklahoma Road Middle School, members thought it would be helpful to have a “refrigerator page” easily located on the CCPS website which list crisis intervention and counseling resources available through the school system.
- There are four policies currently out for review. The Board will be sending information to parents and asking them to provide feedback.

#### **Future Topics**

- Bring topics to the May meeting that we would like to ask the Board of Ed to ask CAC to study.
- Please email Ms. Gaddis at [wcgaddi@carrollk12.org](mailto:wcgaddi@carrollk12.org) with any additional topics for future meetings.
- The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Board offices.

**Schools Represented**

Eldersburg Elementary, Hampstead Elementary, Manchester Elementary, Mechanicsville Elementary, Mt. Airy Elementary, North Carroll Middle, Oklahoma Road Middle, Piney Ridge Elementary, Parr's Ridge Elementary, Runnymede Elementary, Sandymount Elementary, Spring Garden Elementary, Westminster Elementary, William Winchester Elementary, Winters Mill High.

Other Representatives: Tara Battaglia (Board of Education), CASE, CCEA, CCSGA, Bob Lord (Member at Large)