

Agenda Item #: Report

ITEM TYPE:
(Action, Discussion, Report)

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

TITLE: Annual Report of the Community Advisory Council

DATE: June 10, 2020

OVERVIEW:

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) is a standing committee of the Board of Education of Carroll County and was established to serve as a forum for public concerns, advice, and communication to and from the Board.

The CAC considers matters pertinent to public education and presents concerns and recommendations in accordance with its bylaws to the Board for consideration and possible action. In addition to providing information to the Board, the CAC may be called upon by the Superintendent and/or Board of Education to research or make recommendations on matters related to the education of students in Carroll County Public Schools. Each school appoints a representative to serve a two-year term on the Council.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Objective II.i: Communication between CCPS and the community demonstrates transparency, trust, and respect.

FISCAL IMPACT: No additional impact

RECOMMENDATION/FUTURE DIRECTION: For Board information

Submitted by:

W. Carey Gaddis
Communications Officer

Approve/Concur:

Steven A. Lockard, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

BOARD-APPOINTED STANDING COMMITTEES REPORT TO THE BOARD

Name of Committee: Community Advisory Council

Date of Report: June 10, 2020

Primary Charge/Responsibilities of the Committee:

- Coordinate the study of school system issues as requested by the Board.
- Make recommendations for school system improvements to the Board.
- Participate in school system comprehensive planning as requested by the Board.
- Foster understanding of Board policies and initiatives within the general public.
- Serve as a body to react to educational proposals being developed.
- Encourage participation in school affairs by the citizens of Carroll County.
- Be available to assist the Board in the promotion of program priorities to the general public.

Significant Activities of the Committee:

Note: The Community Advisory Council was only able to conduct three meetings this year due to the challenges presented by COVID-19.

- Hosted Board President Donna Sivigny, who welcomed members and expressed how much the Board of Education values and needs the Council's feedback. President Sivigny also explained that as part of the CCPS Strategic Plan, a concerted effort is being made to increase the number of schools that have active representation and participation on the Council.
- Received a presentation from the Superintendent of Schools updating Council members on challenges and successes from the past year, as well as plans for the new school year.
- Assisted the Board of Education in adding an item to each Board meeting agenda that determines any specific topics needing to be shared with CAC for feedback.

- Received information and provided feedback regarding efforts to develop a Carroll County Council of PTAs.
- Discussed the proposed 2020-21 school calendar, the results of the CCPS parent survey, and the work of the Calendar Committee.
- Continued discussions on marketing CAC and increasing communications with parents and school communities.
- Assigned a CAC member to serve on the Comprehensive Health and Wellness Policy Committee of the School Health Council.
- Received information on the Board Ambassador program.
- Hosted a presentation by Duane Williams, Supervisor of School Security and Emergency Management, who provided an update on school security initiatives, answered questions, and received suggestions from CAC members.
- Received a presentation previewing the *Navigating Difficult Waters Together: Supporting, Empowering, and Communicating with Today's Youth* community event and discussed methods to encourage family participation.
- Shared information on Board items out for feedback with individual school communities and encouraged parents to provide feedback to the Board of Education throughout the year.

Committee Recommendations to the Board:

During the next school year, the Community Advisory Council would like to:

- Continue to expand marketing methods to ensure that all parents have a better awareness and understanding of the Council
- Complete projects and studies assigned by the Board
- Provide feedback and parent perspective to the Board on topics and issues of concern related to the school system
- Increase knowledge of the school system through presentations and information provided by school system staff
- Continue to provide information to individual school communities to foster a better understanding of school system priorities and goals.