

Community Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.

In attendance: Chavarria, Clark, Fox, Hampton, Wood

- I. Welcome and Celebrations
 - A. State Tests
 - i. 1 of 12 Districts in AR who improved in every area
 - B. \$19 Million of volunteerism brought within the District
 - C. ACT results: growth up by 0.4
 - D. Don Roberts Elementary named a Blue Ribbon School by US Department of Education
 - i. Only 1 of 3 schools in AR; only 3 from each state nationwide
 - ii. 3 year set of data
 - E. EdCamp Professional Development
- II. ADE Systems Analysis
 - A. Mr. Poore was joined by Deputy Commissioner Ivy Pfeffer to explain systems analysis as an accountability/assistance model used by ADE to assist districts with overall student success by examining multiple components.
 - B. Systems analysis chart can be viewed by general public on LRSD website.
 - C. Board discussed three components that will be submitted to State Board. The State Board will use the information to offer commendations and suggest improvements in various areas.
 - D. Questions
 - i. How has the District been effective in communication with external stakeholders?
 1. Wood: M. Poore's Twitter account; Community involvement in various community events
 2. Fox: Community Town Halls; Next Steps: Extending conversations in the good times - Coffee and Conversations to offer communication in a non-threatening manner
 3. Hampton: District's Communications have been challenged by opposing groups particularly in social media
 4. Fox: suggested a Communications Audit via a survey to find how parents want to receive their information
 - a. Pamela Smith answered: no formal audit has been done, but the District has grown social media following tremendously over the years. Mentioned ParentLink and the information that can be gathered from it.
 5. Dr. Pfeffer: offered further assistance with surveying parents

6. Wood: suggested encouraging Administration and Building level administrators to use social media (Facebook, etc.) to push out positive stories
 - ii. How can the District be more impactful in explaining their mission?
 1. Hampton: use mission statement to tie all of every school's efforts together. Every school's initiatives reflects mission statement
 - iii. Share how the District uses assessment results to empower parents.
 1. Fox: Parent Nights; Suggested Coffee and Conversations
 2. Poore: P. Carlock at Stephens bringing groups of principals together; D. Smith at Mabelvale Elementary sponsoring Mexican Consulate at Mabelvale; F. Williams hosting cluster meeting for feeder schools.
 3. Wood: commended District for using the flexibility of homework packets; communication from schools to read 20 minutes daily to encourage family reading
 4. Poore: mentioned One Book, One District initiative as method the District uses to encourage family reading
 - iv. Dr. Pfeffer: will help provide the District with information that the LRSD can work on a District Support Plan the State Board will review to make decisions about release of the District to local control.
 - E. Dr. Sadie Mitchell commended Barbara Anderson and Roberts Elementary for their Blue Ribbon School Award. They will travel to Washington, D.C. in November to receive the award. Called principals "system thinkers;" they think about how their actions affect everyone in the District
 - i. Blue Ribbon Awarded schools are rated on achievement, parental involvement; there must be year to year long-term consistency
 - ii. Hampton asked what components contribute to the District's two Blue Ribbon Schools
 1. Parental Involvement
 2. Strong afterschool program
 3. Unique classroom set up
 4. Great teachers
 5. Support staff and volunteer parents trained by teachers
 6. Root Cause analysis through the Achieve Team is being used by Mr. Poore to replicate results at every school
 - iii. Mr. Wood invited audience to Robert's World Fest on November 11
- III. Hall High Update
- A. Mr. Burton introduced Dr. Mark Roberts, new principal at Hall High.
 - B. Dr. Roberts presented a slide show presentation about High Hall's strategy and initiative.
 - i. Discussed Goals, Deliberate Reading and Writing Focus, Focus Areas, amending master schedules, 9th and 10th Grade Academies, the "Hall Way"- building culture; partnerships with UALR and UCA (Social Work

interns to assist students with areas that are out of school's control); working with Mrs. Chavarria and Mexican Consulate; and TRIBE (Alumni Association); current SOI practices and SOI Initiatives in progress

ii. Gaudy Goal: attainable but extreme stretch – National Blue Ribbon School Status

C. J. Wood asked about the development of a mentoring program

i. Roxy Browning: the school has adopted “Empowowment” program but pulled the program to some issues with it.

D. L. Clark commended the 9th grade Career Readiness program instructor (DeAndre Smith) results he's seen in students.

E. Wood: Asked how Dr. Roberts is improving parental support image at Hall and how he's done it in the past.

i. Mailing interim reports

ii. Parent/staff development

iii. Open house (looking at altering time offering)

iv. Will look at social media

F. Chavarria: mentioned that many students at Hall work afternoons, evenings, and/or weekends.

IV. Southwest High School

A. Mr. Burton lead the presentation of the update on the new school

i. Overview and renderings of design of building, master plan, and features of the building.

ii. Goal is to open in 2020

B. Kelsey Bailey discussed how the second lien loan will help complete the project. Introduced Kevin Yarbber as new Maintenance and Operations Director.

i. Discussed other capital improvements that will be done (energy management)

ii. Master Facility Plan will be presented next month

C. Groundbreaking Monday, October 2 at 1:30

V. LRSD Policy Adoption

A. Mr. Poore offered background

B. Eric Walker, Staff Attorney, explained three policies discussed tonight

C. Mr. Poore offered more explanation about process for looking at policies

D. Wellness Policy

i. Mr. Wood offered the suggestion to alter the policy to allow telephone conferences for Wellness Committee meetings and had questions about other particular points in the policy.

E. School Closings

i. Mrs. Fox asked about how the policy affects school closings for special days like the 60th Anniversary at Central High

F. Reduction In Force policy

i. Questions about when new personnel policies will be approved.

- ii. Recall requirement discussed by Mr. Walker and Rhonda Benton, HR Director.
 - 1. New policy would include performance indicators
 - G. Policies will be presented to Board on a monthly basis for the rest of the school year.
 - VI. Doe/Covington Settlement
 - A. Mr. Poore presented
 - i. Overview of case and reasons for settling.
 - ii. Offered main points of settlement
 - 1. Facility upgrades
 - a. Henderson, McClellan, Cloverdale – rails, lighting, storage, windows, soap dispensers, tile, lockers, doors
 - b. Many items are a part of the Second Lien capital improvements or are a part of routine maintenance and can be absorbed with regular budget
 - iii. Magnet options
 - iv. Attendance zones
 - v. Student placement options
 - vi. Attorney’s fees were \$100,000.
- VII. Budget Overview 2017-2018
 - i. Kelsey Bailey presented key points in results in projections, collection rates, revenues, savings
 - ii. Answered questions about fund balance
 - 1. Comfort level is about 10-15%; District is at about 12.7%
 - iii. Saw significant savings in Transportation contract by combining and make routes more efficient
 - iv. 2.5% projected increase in revenue for this year’s budget
 - v. Final presentation next meeting
 - vi. Two new financial software: eFinance and TimeClock Plus
 - vii. District made the strides toward the \$37 Million savings overall
 - viii. Wood asked for justifications behind savings
- VIII. ASBA Delegate
 - A. Need a representative serve as delegate
 - B. National School Board conference in December
 - C. Mr. Poore will share information in an email
- IX. Lessons Learned at Town Hall
 - A. Tabled to next month’s meeting (when more members are present)
 - B. Wood offered a few comments
- X. Other
 - A. Legislative Breakfast tomorrow at 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. here in Student Center