

Community Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2017
5:30 p.m.

In attendance: M. Chavarria, L. Clark, M. Fox, A. Hampton, K. Hughes, J. Wood, M. Poore

I. Celebrations & Positive Updates

- A Central High student achieved a 36 on the ACT, and will be recognized on April 24.
- LRSD has two Dell Scholars, one from Hall and one from J. A. Fair.
- LRSD had several winners in the Economics Arkansas Stock Market Game: one student from Hall, one teacher winner, Forest Park won the Elementary Level school award, Central High won at the high school level.
- Stephens Elementary will be recognized for their branch bank and student credit card incentive program.
- The Lemonade War: All students K – 5 will read the book. There will be an assembly at every elementary school on April 28th at 1:30 p.m. CAB members are invited to attend one of the school assemblies. Copies of the book will be provided to CAB members. The final Lemonade War celebration will be held on May 20th at the Clinton Presidential Center from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

II. Financial Audit

- Mr. Bailey gave a brief overview of the audit report. A copy was provided with the CAB agenda materials. The audit found no exceptions.

Ms. Fox made a motion to accept the audit as presented; Ms. Hughes seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. It was noted that this motion should be included in the Board's quarterly report to the state.

III. Hall Innovation Plan

- Background introductions were made by Mr. Poore and Mr. Burton. School staff members presented a PowerPoint: Larry Schleicher, Principal, with Carol Overton, Elizabeth McAlpine and School Improvement Specialist, Roxie Browning.
- Detailed discussion on the Block ABC schedule.
- The Hall Innovation Plan includes one waiver request which would provide additional time to accomplish the advisory and activity schedule.
- Ms. Fox suggested the addition of another parent (or two) to the committee.
- Mr. Hamilton encouraged more inclusion of students other than those on student council. Encourage participation by the students who aren't as popular or involved.
- Mr. Clark encouraged a time management component as part of the instructional day.
- Question regarding budget and funding. No additional staff requirements known at this time.

Ms. Fox made a motion to enthusiastically support the Hall High School of Innovation proposal, including the request for approval of the waiver to fully implement the plan and to also encourage the Commissioner and the State Board of Education to approve the application as submitted. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion and it **carried unanimously**.

IV. Transition Review for Repurposed Sites

Mr. Poore summarized:

- Necessary to close schools based on the need to reduce the budget;
- Closing and repurposing two schools and the two programs being moved will save over \$3.6 million. The total budget reduction needed this year is \$11 million, bringing the three-year savings to approximately \$40 million.
- Critical need to ensure students and parents feel comfortable transitioning to their new schools.
- Wilson students will transition to four elementary schools. All Franklin students will go to Stephens.
- Opportunities have been provided for students and parents to tour the new schools.
- Volunteers and school partners are transitioning with the students to their new schools or to other schools based on need.
- Two meetings were held this week to hear the proposal for repurposing Woodruff and Franklin.
- City directors, neighborhood association members, and other members of the community are providing representation on the committee to review the proposals.
- We have until February 2018 to find a new use for our facilities; after that time the schools could impacted by passed legislation that allows charters greater access to underutilized facilities.
- For the Woodruff building, two presenters wanted to keep the school open; one proposal would convert the building into loft-type apartments; the third proposal would use the bottom level to run a for-profit preschool with the upper level converted to apartments.
- For the Franklin building, the Watershed would operate a community based center to support families in need (similar to the current program at the old Gillam school which they rent from the LRSD). One proposal would operate a community based clinic and after school and summer program, and the other two proposals asked to keep the school open.

Mr. Wood encouraged plans to hold end of the year or back to school celebrations for students at their new schools.

V. Update on Extension of Debt / Election

- May 9th election
- Encouraging voter participation with early voting one week ahead at the Pulaski County Courts Building.
- The project list is on the website.

- A portion of the money will be used to fund the new high school in SWLR, but all schools will receive needed upgrades.
- It has been proven that newer facilities have a positive impact on the learning environment and achievement levels improve with upgraded facilities.
- The city of Little Rock Board unanimously approved site plans for building the SWLR High School.
- Mr. Poore explained the reasons for offering only one early voting site; there will be over 50 polling sites on election day

VI. Calendar of Events

- a. Employee Hearings – Every Thursday unless notified otherwise
- b. April 17, 2017 – Press Conference - LR Central High School 60th Anniversary Celebration
- c. April 18, 2017 – VIPS: An Evening for the Stars
- d. April 24, 2017 – Superintendent's Recognition Program
- e. April 28, 2017 – 1:30 p.m.
The Lemonade War – All Elementary Schools
- f. May 8, 2017 – Teacher of the Year Awards Banquet

VII. Public Comment

None

VIII. Other

- The Lemonade War Day, April 28th, CAB members can select which school they want to attend and if they want to participate in the program.
- Reminder about employee hearings, currently being held every Thursday night. Approximately seven pending hearings. Mr. Wood encouraged CAB members to respond to Jordan Eason when notification dates are sent out.
- CAB members will participate in the Central High School 60th anniversary celebration if they would like.
- RSVP to Debbie Milam on the ViPS (Volunteers in Public Schools) annual Evening of the Stars.
- Two Individuals have expressed interest in serving on the CAB. More information will be provided.
- Mr. Poore reported on the State Board Meeting discussion about local control and the possibility of granting a local school district's request for elected representation. Previously the only stipulation was to achieve academic improvement measured by test scores. Three of our schools have come off the list. Currently the state board can vote to grant local control, with an established process to transition in stages. A third element of legislation would redefine how states are going to evidence accountability with local states adopting their own accountability indicators.
- Transition plans would be developed to assist in the return to local control either in stages, partially, or totally.
- Information on the CAB's quarterly report should be sent to Mr. Wood. Include accomplishments, highlights, and comments on community involvement.
- Information will be sent on summer school board training sessions.

Ms. Fox moved to **adjourn** at 7:46 p.m.