Community Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, December 14, 2017

5:30 PM

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

I. Welcome and Celebrations
   A. Annual Report
   B. Think Big Little Rock
   C. Winter Coat Drive at Booker Magnet sponsored by LR Firefighters and Entergy
   D. Legislators Breakfast

II. Facility Master Plan Presentation
   A. Details of the plan, including locations, project types and stage of progress, presented by Kevin Yarbbery, Director of Maintenance and Operations (See project list)
   B. McClellan K-8 reconfiguration planning discussed by Mr. Poore
      1. The District is seeking partnership funding from the State
      2. Plan will serve 1,462 students
   C. Kelsey Bailey elaborated on the purpose of the Facility Master Plan. He said that it serves as a comprehensive plan of how the district will maintain our facilities.
   D. Mr. Bailey also discussed enrollment trends and projections
   E. There was also discussion on updates to the capacity studies.

III. Public Hearing (6:00 p.m.)
   A. Motion was made by M. Fox to open public hearing specifically for the Facility Master Plan. The motion was seconded by A. Hampton. The board voted unanimously.
   B. Public comments were opened.
      1. Dr. Anika Whitfield asked about Hamilton building, the distressed school buildings upkeep, and the McClellan High School conversion. Another member of the audience asked about Woodruff.
   C. Motion was made to close public hearing by M. Fox. Motion was seconded by L. Clark. The vote to close was unanimous.

IV. Board Comments and Vote
   A. Mr. Poore answered questions from public hearing about:
      1. The conversion of McClellan.
      2. Facilities at the distressed schools.
      3. Failure of the Woodruff sale.
      4. Use of Wilson building for ALE and Athletics
      5. The proximity of Hamilton to charters and empty offices of Pinnacle View eliminate them from being used as charter school facilities
   B. A. Hampton asked if any other educational organizations have inquired about Woodruff property. Mr. Poore answered that no charter schools have inquired.
C. J. Wood asked for explanation about projections of decrease in enrollment. He also discussed concerns about the need for a high school in West Little Rock.

D. Mr. Poore asked the Board to consider the recommending the Master Plan resolution to Commissioner Key for approval of the Plan.
   1. M. Fox made a motion to approve the resolution, which will be submitted to Commissioner Key. There was no second.
   2. A. Hampton made a motion to delay the recommendation to a special meeting in January. The motion was seconded by M. Fox. The vote to delay the recommendation was unanimous.

V. Recommendation for Name of New High School in Southwest Little Rock
   A. Marvin Burton presented background and progress of name selections.
   B. Student groups were formed at Fair, McClellan, Mabelvale and Cloverdale.
   C. The name suggestions were narrowed down and a final recommendation was presented by Administration. The final recommendation is “Little Rock Southwest High School.”
      1. Motion was made to recommend approval of Administration’s name recommendation by A. Hampton. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

VI. Academic Update of Cloverdale, Henderson and Hall
   A. Cloverdale - Wanda Ruffins presented information on Cloverdale (demographics, testing gains/losses, Reading Across the Curriculum, staffing, discipline referrals, staff attendance, School Culture).
      1. Questions were answered from the Board about mobility rates, ESL student support; chronic teacher absenteeism causes. Additional questions were asked about English Learner students’ challenges and the causes of chronic student absenteeism. W. Ruffins discussed incentives being offered to students for good attendance. She also addressed questions about the importance of parental involvement and ways Cloverdale is involving parents in their students’ success.
   B. Henderson – Frank Williams presented information on Henderson demographics, test gains/losses; feeder school data; grading practices, homework practices; Math and Reading inventories; climate; growth comparisons. F. Williams addressed how Henderson is addressing challenges and goals for the future.
      1. F. Williams addressed questions from the Board about homework, differentiating instruction; proximity to moving out of improvement status.
   C. Hall – Dr. M. Roberts presented information on Hall High about absence rates, discipline referrals; instructional and classroom practices; staff absenteeism; goals for the future.
      1. Answered questions from the Board about student absenteeism, ESL support from the District; parents’ opinion about support of students

VII. Public Comments
   A. Dr. Anika Whitfield asked questions about the CAB’s role in leading the District back to local control and made comments about involvement in the success of the distressed schools.
      1. Comments from Mr. Poore about addressing Dr. Whitfield’s concerns
B. A. Hampton and J. Wood made comments about their actions as Community Advisory Board members.

VIII. Closing Comments
A. Planning for special meeting in January 2018
B. J. Wood encouraged CAB members to send their concerns with the Master Plan to M. Poore prior to the special Meeting in January.
C. A. Hampton made motion to adjourn and K. Hughes seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Minutes recorded by Jasmine Perry, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.