Community Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2018

In attendance: Lupita Chavarria, Larry Clark, Melanie Fox, Anthony Hampton, Michael Mason, LaShannon Spencer, Jeff Wood; Mike Poore, Superintendent

I. Welcome and Celebrations
   a. City Year Gala
   b. One District, One Book
   c. Middle School Partnerships Press Conference
   d. One Rock Athletic Awards

II. 3rd Quarter Academic Progress Report
   a. Mr. Poore gave a brief overview of the data to be presented. He also welcomed Dr. Danyell Cummings to give remarks regarding the purpose of the data and give perspective to how the District uses the data.
      i. Dr. Mark Roberts and Mrs. Roxie Browning presented data results for Hall High School.
         1. Discipline and Enrollment Data and introduced plan for reducing discipline referrals. He also talked about Hall’s teacher attendance and their goals for improving teacher attendance. Mr. Roberts talked about how afterschool tutoring, pull-outs and pull-ins are positively decreasing the number of D’s and F’s. They are also working with City Year to provide academic support. Realigned special needs program.
         2. He gave an overview of Hall’s plans for addressing challenges which includes Continuous Cycle of Improvement (Plan, Do, Check Model) and implementation of rigorous coursework.
         3. Board Questions: Mr. Jeff Wood asked Dr. Roberts to elaborate on how Hall High is attacking the specific challenges of the lack of rigorous teaching and chronic student and teacher absences. Dr. Roberts responded with specific aspects of strategies the school is using to address the issues.
         4. They are also implementing strategies to help students with issues that are contributing to absences. Ms. Spencer asked about incentives that are being offered to teachers for attendance. Dr. Roberts and Mrs. Browning elaborated on how teachers have improved teacher attendance: Hospitality Committee, City Year events, collaborations with The Tribe, Hall High’s Alumni Association. Mr. Poore commented on other strategies like Community Walks and the Grab and Go smoothie program.
         5. Dr. Roberts and Mrs. Browning also answered questions from Mr. Wood about what school does to address challenges with teachers who are not meeting professional expectations.
ii. Mrs. Wanda Ruffins and Ms. Braswell presented the data results for Cloverdale Middle School.

1. Mrs. Ruffins said that the school introduced a new Behavior Intervention Specialist which has reduced behavior referrals. She then reviewed teacher attendance data. She said that business sponsors, Farmers and Gadberry Associates, have contributed to a teacher attendance incentive program. She also answered detailed questions from Mr. Wood about the teacher absences.

2. Mrs. Ruffins reviewed student attendance data and answered specific questions from the Board about student attendance.

3. Mrs. Ruffins presented math and literacy data, challenges and goals. She also talked about certain strategies, such as Orton Gillingham, Myon, and NewsELA for literacy and Restorative Justice for behavior challenges.

4. Mrs. Ruffins and Mr. Poore answered questions from Board about literacy results when comparing grade levels. Mr. Wood requested more regular reports from schools that feed into the “distressed” schools. Mr. Poore asked that grade level reading campaign be added to future reports.

b. Henderson Middle School

i. Ms. Sanders presented data on Mr. Williams’s behalf. She talked about discipline and enrollment data, student incentive programs, and student survey results. She talked about Teacher Attendance data and strategies the school has used to improve teacher attendance.

ii. Ms. Sanders reviewed math data. She answered questions from Ms. Spencer about Saturday school attendance. The school is using the blended learning model which integrates technology in the classroom and at home; “homework” is done in the classroom with the teacher. Mr. Grimmett talked about new English curriculum. They also talked about challenges and strategies the school is using to meet its goals. Mr. Poore and the Henderson team answered questions that Mr. Clark asked about how Henderson is addressing negative public perceptions.

III. Pre-K Imagination Library

a. Dr. Karen James presented a brief overview and slide presentation about the LRSD Early Childhood Pre-K program. Dr. James talked about such topics as enrollment, funding, the history of the LRSD Pre-K program, the size of the program and the testing results of Pre-K students vs. Non-LRSD Pre-K students. Dr. James introduced the Coordinators from each Early Childhood Center, Ms. Milam, Ms. Freeman, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Cornice.

b. Dr. James presented an action item for the board, the Imagination Library MOU:

i. Michael Mason moved to support approval of the MOU with the Pulaski County Imagination Library. It was seconded by Anthony Hampton. The item was approved unanimously.

IV. Naming of Facilities
a. Mr. Poore introduced the rationale for naming the LRCH Field House naming. Mr. Poore introduced Coach Boone (who was present) and Coach Fitzpatrick. He recommended naming the LRCH field house “The Boone-Fitzpatrick Fieldhouse.” Mr. Mason made remarks about how Coach Boone impacted his life. Mr. Wood invited Coach Boone to speak about his favorite memories as coach. Mr. Mason made the motion to renaming the LRCH Fieldhouse to the Boone-Fitzpatrick Fieldhouse. The motion was seconded by Anthony Hampton. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Mr. Poore introduced the proposal to name the Media Center at Horace Mann Magnet “the Dr. Marian Glover Lacey Media Center.” The motion to name the media center was made by Mr. Michael Mason. The item was seconded by Ms. Spencer. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Security Proposal Update – Tabled until next meeting

VI. Budget Update

   a. Kelsey Bailey, LRSD CFO, presented the District’s Legislative Audit results and proposed $5M budget reductions for the 2018-2019 school year.

      i. He gave the board an overview of the Audit results. He discussed to issues the District investigated that were included in the findings. Otherwise, the District had no other findings.

      ii. Mr. Bailey discussed six areas of budget cuts: 30 classroom teachers ($2.1M), assistant principals ($1.44 M), Central Office Staff ($650K), 20 Paraprofessionals ($535,260), School Improvement Specialists ($600K), Secondary stipends ($175)

      iii. Mr. Poore talked about how the loss of students impacted the decision to make budget cuts, then he and Mr. Bailey answered specific questions from the Board about the budget.

VII. Policy Actions

   a. Section 5: 2nd Reading and Action – Mr. Hampton moved that the Board support recommendation of approval of the policy. Ms. Spencer seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

   b. Section 3: Personnel Policy – the first reading was presented by Mr. Walker and Mr. Poore.

   c. Section 6: Community Relations – the first reading was presented by Mr. Walker.

VIII. Community Comments

   a. Coach Eddie Boone commented about the coach’s salary pay.

   b. Ms. Taylor commented about the security update. She also asked a question about where the agenda for the meetings are posted before the meeting.

IX. CAB Comments

   a. Mr. Poore talked about the District’s plans for revitalizing the Student Center and the possibility of the meetings being moved to another location in June, July and August.

   b. Hampton moved to close the regular board meeting. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

X. Work Session – Board Training (the agenda mistakenly listed the training as an “executive session” but Mr. Poore stated that the training should have been listed as a “work session.” Jordan Eason, Employee Relations Specialist, and Eric Walker, Staff Attorney, presented a slide presentation on conducting personnel hearings.