

Advisory Council Minutes for Thursday, November 21st, 2024. 5:30 PM

Attendance: Heather Goode, Lynn Bisek, Elvia Jimenez, Mrs. Layton, Dawn Pell, Widad Abdallah, Natasha Marks, Kimberly Arias, Judy Hgugi, Mauricio Hernandez

Welcome:

- Members were welcomed by Mrs. Pell and Administrators
- All participants introduced themselves.

Principal's Time

- Mrs. Goode reviewed the budget for the next school year 2025/26
 - Budget was based on an estimated enrollment of 598 students.
 - Mrs. Goode explained how the budget is determined. Our budget increased mainly due to the increase in teacher salaries for next year.
 - The number of staff for next year is very similar to this year. Anticipating 5 Kindergarten teachers, 6 first grade teachers, 5 second grade teachers, 5 third grade teachers, 4 fourth grade teachers, and 5 fifth grade teachers
 - We will add one additional ESOL teacher next year which will bring us to 10 ESOL teachers and 1 Lead ESOL teacher. In addition, we will have 1 ESOL teaching assistant
 - We will have 2 school counselors
- Bylaws Discussion
 - The council members looked at the indicators for a High- Functioning Advisory Council
 - Based on the rubric we are a highly functioning Advisory Council but our next task is to create new bylaws
 - The members looked at and discussed an example of bylaws. Council members will work on creating specific Sinclair bylaws at our next advisory meeting on March 20, 2025.
- Updates from our SACI, Mrs. Marks
 - Mrs. Marks shared notes to include explanation of MTSS- Multitiered Systems of Supports which is the partnership between families and staff to support students
 - PWCS Heals mental health support initiative in the county is making some changes and shifting toward PWCS Thrives
 - The council shared the proposed up to 7% salary raise for teachers next year to remain competitive with neighboring counties.
 - Mrs. Marks explained the FACES position at some schools which stand for Family Academic and Community Engagement Specialists- 53 schools have one in the county and their goal is to connect parents with community resources and support

- Parent Time-
 - One parent asked for an update about attendance. Mrs. Goode explained that attendance for some students remains a concern but many students and families have been sick. We are hoping to see an improvement in Spring. Staff continue to work with at risk students to improve attendance.
 - A suggestion was made to find an opportunity at school events for parents who live near each other to share information so that community members can help get children to school when a parent needs transportation or support getting their children to school.

Reminders Included:

- Upcoming Days off on March 28 and March 31st
- Our next meeting will be held on March 20th at 5:30.
- Any parents interested were invited to stay for our STEM night event.
- Kindness Week February 24-28
- Read Across America Week March 37-