Forest Park Principal’s Advisory Council

Minutes

October 25, 2021

7:00 - Welcome and Introductions

Our school board representative, Mr. Justin Wilkes, is joining us again this evening.

**Bruin Highlights.**

* Homecoming dance was a huge success and many students commented that it was better having the dance outdoors.
* FPHS may have a chance at football playoffs.
* Volleyball team is in the first round of the Cardinal District, playing Hylton HS.
* 8th Street Bruins will be going out for their employment class which has resumed post-Covid.
* The Unified Season has started. The Division has purchased a new bus for FPHS dedicated to the program which is a 55-passenger bus and equipped for students with disabilities with a wheelchair ramp and other features.

**PAC Business**

* If attending via zoom please put your information (name, email address, role) in the chat for attendance purposes. If you are attending in person please use the QR code placed on the tables.
* Minutes from last meeting (Sept 2021) were emailed to those who provided an email address and there are hard copies available at the meeting for those attending in person.
* Angela McKelvey, who is also the FPHS SACI Rep, has expressed interest in serving as PAC Secretary. The meetings are being recorded with the transcipts to be able to capture all the information.
* Motion to approve the Sept minutes.
* Nomination and voting for PAC Secretary (Angela McKelvey) and approved.

**SACI Update**

* The first meeting was interesting and different than past meetings. Historically, the first meeting is when the Superintendent speaks and lays out the state of the Division and provides information and statistics such as number of buses or meals served.
* The message conveyed by Dr. McDade this year is that she’s ready to utilize SACI as a major work group to provide feedback and focus on the instructional base. There will be more direct feedback from SACI instead of informational.
* Dr. McDade presented the “Launching Thriving Futures” Strategic Plan, Vision 2025. The goal is for every student to graduate on time with the necessary knowledge and skills.
* The key strategic commitments are: learning achievement for all, positive culture and climate, organizational coherence, and family and community engagement.
* The prorities will drive the investments moving forward and there are focus groups being used and SACI is included as a major working group to provide feedback.
* Presentation on the unfinished learning plan and there will be more information coming up on that and how it relates to FPHS.
* ARPA funding will provide additional support for schools and the funding falls into three categories (universal/focused/prioritized). School will receive different amounts based on level of support needed.
* Presentation on Social and Emotional Learning.
* Funding will be based on level of support needed.
* PWCS sent out emotional needs surveys to students and families. The survey results are being followed through with communications from the Division to the community.
* Surveys being used to help allocate resources. It was highlighted that the surveys identified 400 families within PWC that had basic need issues such as food, clothing, shelter so the Division was able to put these families in touch with community resources.
* Funding provided for social and emotional learning coaches in schools as well as resources provided in an “online backpack” for teachers.
* The social and emotional learning plan also has a focus on staff support.
* Future SACI meetings will include presentations from the Science and Math departments and CTE in order to refocus on the instructional base.
* Past SACI meetings have been very informational and more focused on information sharing. The agenda was built based on prior year feedback and the meetings were an opportunity to receive information and ask questions from the sources. The big change this year is that Dr. McDade will be bringing issues/information to SACI for direct input and feedback from the parents that are on SACI.
* SACI is the only council in PWCS that has a representative from every school within the Division.
* Mr. Martinez shared that Dr. McDade had a meeting with the Principals and she is creating a Principal’s Advisory Council to be utilized as a working group.

**Principal’s Report.**

* Introduction of the New Director of Student Activities, Mr. James Bricker.
* Getting situated for winter sports which starts 08 Nov 2021.
* Current goal is to make sure participating students are registered in SportsWare before tryouts and to complete concussion training and have a sports physical completed.
* Winter sports are: boys & girls basketball, wrestling, swimming, diving, sideline cheer, and winter track.
* Finishing up football (in the hunt for playoffs), volleyball team starting district play, and field hockey starting regional play.
* Parents have inquired about new clubs which will need sponsors and new charters.
* Idea of showcasing activities and clubs during lunchtime in order to get as many students involved as possible.
* Budget information has not been provided yet by the Division finance office, currently anticipate budget information by early November.
* FPHS projected to have funding for three intellectual disabilities programs as well as looking at the EL program which is based on reduced lunch applications but this year all students are eligible for a free lunch so PWCS has decided to stay with the number FPHS ended at last year.
* Schools can roll over 1% of funding. There was about $78k left over from last year but rolling it over is difficult because of late invoicing from vendors due to disruptions of business from COVID.
* Anticipate that most HS will be getting around $65k to go towards operational accounts.
* Homecoming held outdoors was a success and there are requests to hold it outdoors every year. However, there are permits that need approved and this year it was a $10k expense. Tickets were sold at $20/each to 720 students which is $14k which is not a lot of money leftover.
* Dr. Chapman is back from maternity leave and is working on the continuous improvement plan. It is planned that the plan will be provided at the next PAC meeting.
* Bag policy for FPHS home games: bags have to clear so that contents in the bag can be seen. Exception will be for parent volunteers helping out at the events.
* Track is done and lines were painted. The track is ready to host HS events as well as MS events. The community track initiative will also be explored with Mr. Wilkes’ support.
* Although at the last PAC meeting, it was conveyed the homecoming game would be played at FP, it would have incurred additional costs to the school as well as potentially void the warranty for the track.
* ESSR funding provided, but the rules for the funding is constantly changing.
* 2 mini-grants
* Credit recovery for Seniors.
* Tutoring support for ESL students (funding wasn’t available until June 1 so FP had to cover that cost).
* Under mental health and remediation: AP Sat review sessions, but the money was no longer available.
* Summer jump-start academy which was close to $18k.
* Teachers providing virtual tutoring are able to get paid for working outside contract hours.
* Funding is available and the APs are working with Dept. chairs to come up with ideas to see what can be implemented.
* Social and emotional support – FP considered a priority school.
* Social and emotional support training supposed to be for 14 coaches, but based on funding distribution, that’s now down to 7 coaches for priority schools.
* High dosage tutoring
* Support happening in real time in the classroom to support acceleration of learning.
* Support at least 3x/week for 30-45 minutes of intensive targeted instruction based on student needs.
* Needs staffing to support with Division looking at outside agencies such as Kumar or Kaplan.
* $136k to FPHS
* Didn’t know about the additional support when building master schedule for this year. Teacher had suggested that students can flex out during the Advisory period.
* Potential co-teaching model.
* Issue about how to pay teachers who have to stay before or after contract times to supervise early and late buses.This issue has been submitted to the Bookeeper who will be looking into an answer.
* 12th Grade immunizationss – 06 Jan 2022 deadline for 7th and 12th graders.
* Laptop insurance.
* Does not transfer from laptop to laptop.
* Request funding for 200 additional laptops to have in stock for broken laptops, etc.
* Request feedback from PAC on social and emotional support, is FPHS providing what is needed to support?
* Working with Mr. Steve Smith (Dir of Counseling) and Mr. D’Angelo (Social Worker) on information provided by New Horizons.
* Increase in use of DAB pens which are sophisticated vapes that has a higher concentrated marijuana content and there is an increase in students being hospitalized as a result of using it.

**Community Forum**

* Positive comment on offering PAC meetings thru Zoom**.**
* Limitations on streaming content to be used for classroom instruction due to limited bandwidth.
* Follow-up on queston from last meeting on printing services for students. Problem is there are hundreads of drivers, still coming up with solution.
* Recovery plan for SEL students
* Bus driver shortages, not isolated to FPHS, outside purview of Mr. Martinez.
* Push for anyone that would be interested in becoming a bus driver or substitute teacher or any Division positions.
* Recent allleged threat of shooting at school, unverified from New Jersey.
* Please verify with school the information from social media to confirm validity and accuracy.
* Next meeting on 29 Nov 2021, same hybrid format.

8:14 Adjournment