

**In Attendance:** (11)

**Administration:** Principal, Richard Martinez; Program Evaluation.

**Teachers/Staff:** Dan Bredbenner, Gifted Resources; Toni Dingley, English Department Chair; Brad Parker, Social Studies Department Chair.

**Parents:** Chairperson, Ricki Guyant; Vice-Chair, Vanessa Olson; SACI Representative, Carrie Webb; Secretary, Reyna Cartagena; Darla Carenas; Terrie Lewis, Tim Neall.

**Welcome:** PAC Chairperson, Ricki Guyant, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, welcoming all in attendance.

**Review of Minutes:** The minutes from the 10/24/16 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Open Forum:** Mrs. Guyant indicated that open forum would be timed for the sake of efficiency. There were no open forum discussions offered.

**Principal's Report:** Mr. Martinez provided an updated report, reminding members of the next Touch Base on February 10<sup>th</sup> (late arrival for students) and Commencement on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. He indicated that he continues to remind parents about Commencement to avoid confusion at year's end. He also reminded members that Information Technology Night is on 11/17/16.

Mr. Martinez reported that Project Lead the Way will not be offered at Hylton H.S. and, given Forest Park's student numbers, there is a possibility FPHS can take some interested students for the 5-course engineering program. He added that there may be some difficulty for AP students to complete the program given conflicts in AP classes and that consideration may be possible for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to take the first engineering course at FPHS. This is still in early discussion, especially since middle schools would have to pay for this alternative.

AP 11<sup>th</sup> Grade English transition was discussed, with Mr. Martinez indicating that the reduction from 34 to 27 students per class was, overall, successful.

He presented the mock up for the graduation hood all seniors would wear at Commencement and a discussion on cost took place, with a parent raising the concern that the representative selling the graduation merchandise gave conflicting information on the new garment. Mr. Martinez indicated that he would follow up with the representative to ensure correct information is provided to parents upon ordering.

As it relates to Strategic Planning efforts for next year, Mr. Martinez reviewed the Preliminary Balanced Scorecard and highlighted the pattern that is being seen with Special Education and limited English proficient students in certain areas. He emphasized that the smaller pool of both populations have a greater impact on measures, which then impacts graduation rates. Mr. Martinez reviewed the challenges that teachers face with bringing students up to standard, given that (for example) language deficits play a major role (at least for the LEP students). He indicated that 358 students will cycle through the library during flex time to ensure understanding of the computer software/operating system to further assist with testing/schoolwork with retesting if necessary. This is particularly important as a parent stated that, often, students do not see their actual test after submission on scantron/computer-based testing to learn from errors. Mr. Martinez gave examples of testing questions

that help target weaknesses in certain subjects to determine if they are language-related and discussed the review of success based on cohorts, which change yearly. He emphasized that the pressure is on high schools to ensure patterns are addressed and graduation rates are achieved. A parent expressed concern that it seems the consequences happen in high school and not in earlier academic years, to which Mr. Martinez indicated that there are a great deal of difficult dynamics at play. A parent offered the idea of bringing in mentors or parents to motivate students. Mr. Martinez indicated that such ideas can be part of the draft Strategic Plan that will be offered to the PAC for review by 1/9/17.

A parent asked about the 1<sup>st</sup> grading period report card and the confusion that was caused with issuance date. Mr. Martinez explained that all high schools had no power to generate the report cards on time. The issue also caused problems with the phones and he had to provide the school nurse his cellphone to have on hand for emergency. He is unclear what glitch caused it, but this caused a delay in the report card schedule. This past weekend the Division updated its bandwidth so such an issue is not anticipated again. He apologized for the confusion.

A parent asked about the student reaction to the elections, to which Mr. Martinez and Mr. Bredbenner indicated it was mostly used as a teaching moment. FPHS has not had the same response as other schools in other states, which have been marked by protests and walk outs. Another parent asked about school closure for the inauguration, and Mr. Martinez indicated he had not heard of this as of yet.

Mr. Martinez closed his report with an announcement that the WISE test will take place Wednesday, explaining the issue that is raised when students take the online version of the economics class (which prevents them from being able to take the test).

Later, Mr. Martinez added that that transportation for the swim team remains a problem that he and Mr. Park are trying to resolve, given that FPHS has 60+ students on the swim team, but are being given limited lanes at a later time that does not allow for activity buses. Parental discussion occurred on that point.

**SACI Report:** Mrs. Webb updated members on SACI discussions, to include the SACI voting system, grading issues, middle schools moving toward their own Touch Base and the revised homework regulation (as of September 2016). A parent added that the homework regulation addresses all students under one umbrella when AP students, for example, may have a heavier load that will impact homework amount. With respect to grading, a parent raised the concern that upperclassmen are able to opt out of final exams if they have an A in the course. This is problematic for the sophomore, for example, who is in a class with juniors and seniors and still has to take the final exam, as it does not seem fair. Another parent added that, despite having an A in the course, the final would still impact their grade, to which Mr. Martinez indicated that the final exam would constitute 10%, which is not enough for an A to be impacted.

**Concluding Remarks:** Mrs. Guyant wished everyone a good holiday before adjourning the meeting at 8:12pm

**Next Meeting:** January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7pm in the Library.