

In Attendance: (14)

Administration: Principal, Richard Martinez.

Teachers/Staff: Toni Dingley, English Dept. Chair.

Students: Alyssa Brown (SCA President); Robbie Koch (Class of 2017 President); Kirsten Hebert (Class of 2017 Treasurer); Erin Class (Student, Class of 2017).

Parents: Chairperson, Ricki Guyant; Vice-Chair, Vanessa Olson; Secretary, Reyna Cartagena; Lori Hancock; Terrie Lewis, Renee Johnson; Tim Neall; Kay Ziv.

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

Review of Minutes: The minutes from the 1/9/17 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Announcements: It was announced that the suicide awareness event will be held on 5/20/17. This is usually a very well attended event. Also, mental health information nights are being held by the County.

Open Forum: Mrs. Guyant called for Open Forum.

- A parent commended the productive Touch Base, affording both an opportunity to learn about student progress and to thank teachers. It was also suggested that we consider ways to commend excellent teacher performance, for example, a teacher of the month recognition.
- A parent said that they completed 7 college visits with their child and learned that several of the schools visited had professors in the IT Specialty/Media field that were very impressed with FPHS's IT program.
- A parent commended Principal Martinez on the weekly newsletter, finding it very helpful. It was suggested that kudos to teachers and students also be made there. Principle Martinez reminded members that if they are not receiving the newsletter, it could be because their server may be recognizing it as "junk."
- Another parent asked about Dual Enrollment and publicity for same. Principal Martinez indicated that information about the program is widely available to the students.
- Representatives from the Student Government presented a petition to request that seniors be allowed to decorate their caps for graduation. The representatives explained their request, outlined the proposed rules for the cap decorating, and requested feedback as well as support from the PAC. A parent responded in support, indicating that they would volunteer to be at graduation checking to be sure that caps were decorated in accordance with the proposed rules. Other parents made suggestions and comments as follows: there may be procedural or decorum issues that the request may pose, context on decorum was given by parents and Principal Martinez, explore all options, and present proposal at an administration hearing. Principal Martinez applauded the students for coming forward with the request and seeing it through.

Elections:

- Mrs. Guyant announced vacancies for Chair and Co-Chair of the PAC for the next school year. Elections will take place in April and she encouraged all members to consider the positions.

SACI Report:

- Ms. Olson updated members on SACI discussions, the best practices session that occurred the night before. At this event, those in attendance discussed what has been working at their respective schools to share ideas. A document is forthcoming on same.
- Ms. Olson also reported that there is ongoing discussion about effective communication and that the county recently updated its infrastructure to 2G, with a proposal being drafted for further upgrades to include replacing Parent Portal for 2019. The latter would allow for real time updates, unofficial transcripts, etc. Also discussed in the SACI was the new PWCS App launched in July 2016.
- AP grading was also reported by Ms. Olson as a SACI update. She indicated that AP grades are not matching AP test scores and there is an inconsistent implementation of the SOL exemption process. The latter impacts sophomores negatively, as they are ineligible for exemption even though they meet all other requirements.
- Ms. Olson concluded by stating that the SACI will be completing a writing session in the near future to document recommendations and action items.

Principal's Report:

- Principal Martinez informed the PAC that a draft plan was submitted to the superintendent regarding final exam exemption process.
- He reminded the group that graduation remains on June 9th, 2017. This day will be an early release.
- Mr. Martinez also went over budget predictions and explained that a 15.8 million dollar allotted budget requires constant monitoring to assess the actual funds spent. He explained that FPHS has accepted 189 transfer students for the next school year; on average, there are 175-200 transfers accepted; staffing needs will increase to 92.5%; more IT program participants also means more core classes are needed, particularly given the focus on Project Lead the Way.
- An attendance officer is currently under contemplation as the county wants to improve attendance rates for all students. Mr. Martinez reported that, at present, FPHS has 20 students who have amassed in excess of 50 absences this school year. An attendance office would help address that. This may improve the graduation rate, currently at 93% (non-Spec Ed).
- Principal Martinez discussed a distance learning grant that the school is pursuing.
- He also reviewed the PAC officer training that is required, per the county.
- Mrs. Guyant asked Mr. Martinez how the PAC can support budget requests. He indicated that parental support is always encouraged. He informed the PAC that there is a list of items he needs to have updated for the school, like stage lighting, new theatre curtains, and computer updates, but admitted that the county interests may not always align with those items.

Concluding Remarks: Mrs. Guyant adjourned the meeting at 8:05pm

Next Meeting: March 13, 2017 at 7pm in the Library.