

PRA SAC Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2007

Attendees: SAC Parents: Janelle Jones (Co-Chair), Debbie Goodiel (Recorder), Randy Richeson (DAC Rep), Michael Phillips (SIT Coordinator), Allison Filippone, Ron Rosenberg
Administration: Gary Stueven
Governing Board:), Diana Bottoms-Simpson, Chris Murphree
Absent: Michelle Hedge (Teacher Rep)

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes approved for August 2, 2007.

II. Business Community Member of SAC: Gary Stueven

Gary announced that Ken Nöllsch has agreed to serve on the PRA SAC as the community member as required by the by-laws. Ken was unable to attend the meeting.

III. SAC Calendar/Agenda: Deb Goodiel

Debbie described how the SAC calendar was adapted from the District website. The agenda is structured from this calendar and from action items from previous meeting minutes.

IV. SAC Housekeeping: Janelle Jones/Gary Stueven

- A. Michelle Hedge is stepping down from the teacher position on SAC, although she will remain on SIT, which is under of SAC. This will keep SAC in compliance with the by-laws requirement for a teacher representative.
- B. It is desired that SAC have a web page on the PRA website. The webpage should have meeting minutes, meeting agendas, and SAC calendar. Allison volunteered to be the web coordinator for SAC.
- C. The By-Laws were signed and will be sent in to the District.

Gary will ask for a volunteer teacher to sit in on SAC meetings.

Deb to forward appropriate documents to Allison, and cc Gary.

V. Budget Process Overview: Chris Murphree

Chris Murphree currently sits on the Governing Board as Treasurer and came to give SAC the budget process overview. Chris explained how PRA is different than “neighborhood” schools. We operate under bylaws and have a charter with Douglas County. The PRA Governing Board and administrators prepare the annual budget. The process begins at the end of January. The budget is submitted to the District June 1 and have until October 1 to revise. If SAC were to have a programming suggestion that would affect the budget it should be presented to the Board in the spring, before May, to be implemented the following year.

Chris passed out PRA 2007 budget revenue and expense charts for review. In order to understand and plan for building repairs and replacement, PRA contracted DLH Architects to form a report on building systems maintenance, repair, and replacement projected costs spanning 20 years from when the building opened. Currently, we are in year five. There are an estimated \$2.6 million in expenses in the next 15 years. Understanding future needs should give clout to PRA requests to be beneficiaries in future bond issues and mill levies.

One issue that will affect revenue 4 years from now is the graduating of the current 5th grade "triple play class" and the loss of the per pupil income. Options are being discussed now, including a pre-K program, or adding to current class sizes, or beefing up the homeschool program. Chris assured us that compared to other charter schools, PRA is doing well.

VI. 2006-07 SIP related to Goals/Objectives, CSAP overview, 06-07

Survey draft: Gary Stueven

Gary handed out a draft dated 9/06/07 of the 06-07 SIP with progress results. Gary recommends tracking trends in student performance for 07-08 SIP in a similar format as was used in 06-07. Janelle suggested that electives should be included in the SIP to set benchmarks to evaluate. One example suggested was to set a goal to have written goals for each class in a similar format as the item for teacher performance evaluation goals as put forth in the 06-07 SIP.

SAC to forward observations and comments to Gary for both SIP and survey.

Gary passed out the spring 2007 CSAP overview for discussion.

Gary presented the draft slide show that will be available to the PRA Community.

VII. Curriculum Committee: Diana Bottoms-Simpson, Janelle Jones

The Curriculum Committee is not fully formed yet. Some items discussed in relationship to the Curriculum Committee included the following:

- Should review the M.S. document and make recommendations based on the document.
- Talk to 6-8th grade teachers related to teacher survey results on spelling and writing.
- The committee will explore and consider how the adoption of various curriculums will mesh with the use of the Core Knowledge sequence. Dr. Stueven made the observation and it was discussed that Core Knowledge is not a full-bodied curriculum [like Open Court, Saxon or Riggs), rather Core Knowledge "should be considered a content." For more

The next regular SAC meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2007.

information visit

<http://www.coreknowledge.org/CK/about/index.htm>.

- Highlight the fact that Core Knowledge is a content and not a curriculum in and of itself. Open Court is a full bodied reading program where it is possible to dovetail Core Knowledge literature into the program.

VIII. M.S. Parent's Night: Janelle Jones

This meeting is intended to compare High School graduation requirements with Public College Admissions requirements. Promoting PRA's Core Knowledge Middle School program may be a sidelight of the night. It was decided that mid November is a good time for the meeting in order to inform 5th & 6th grade parents considering where to go for middle school, high school graduation requirements and IB requirements.

Parent volunteers need to be recruited.

Promotional flyer to be made.

IX. Board Update: Diana Bottoms-Simpson

The Board will form a technology committee, grant writing committee, and curriculum committee. Back to school night went well with several town-hall style meetings with parents.

X. SIT Update: Michael Phillips

September 24 is the next meeting. There may be 2 more meetings after that to. There are some tech issues to work through. The new version of Sharepoint supports things we want to do. SIT wants to eliminate open anonymous comment boxes. Rather, at the end users will be directed to a link to send comments directly to a teacher, administration, the Board, etc. SIT is waiting for the Board to decide about eliminating the comment boxes. People need to be educated about the purpose of the survey. There is concern about maintaining data integrity during the analysis process. For example, importing data to Xcel to make reports.

Date for survey needs to be selected.

XI. DAC Update: Randy Richeson

Randy passed out meeting upcoming dates.

Include DAC meeting forums in SAC calendar

XII. Community Concerns:

Parents and the school are still getting used to how the crosswalk works. The goal is to have 2 crosswalk volunteers before and after school during carpool times. The kids will collect in the Gym and cross as one group.