

Parkland Community Advisory Council

May 18, 2017

CO-PRESIDENTS

Marie Maritch
Melanie St. Hill

VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP

Michelle Wahlmark

SECRETARY

Linda Perlman-McKenna

ATTENDEES : Nancy Trach, Ann Segan, Michelle Wahlmark, Linda Perlman-McKenna, Marie Maritch, Lisa Hayducek, Melanie St. Hill, Andrea Scott, Jen Schreiner,

GUESTS: Tom Murray, Jennifer Jones

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Mary Braccili, Monica Gutman, Melissa Grube, Bob Fager, Nicole Mandry

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Alana Dee, Kiera Segan, RJ Corba (excused)

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVES: Lisa Roth (excused), Carol Facchiano (excused)

ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Rodney R. Troutman, Assistant Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Melanie St. Hill at 6:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes from April 6, 2017 was made by Lisa Hayducek and seconded by Ann Segan. The motion passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following names were placed into nomination for officers of the CAC for 2017-2018.

Co-Presidents:	Melanie St. Hill Ann Segan (write-in)
Vice President:	Michelle Wahlmark
Secretary:	Andrea Scott

A motion was made by Lisa Hayducek and seconded by Linda Perlman-McKenna. The motion passed unanimously.

CAC AGENDA TOPICS FOR 2017-2018:

The group brainstormed possible topics and ideas regarding next year's CAC meetings. (Lisa Hayducek served as the scribe.)

- Student Assistance Program
- School Board Relations—Communication/Advocacy/Parent Engagement – appropriate way to communicate with the school board, 2-way communication, sharing information and feedback, survey, how the school board operates, how to get parents more involved in advocacy efforts, link between school board and CAC, purpose of CAC

- Rotate CAC meetings to various PTOs—perhaps in February (after Commonwealth passes it's budget), tie in with “State of the District” reports by Rich, Rod and Tracy, include vision and initiatives
- PSD Budget
- New Elementary School
- Classrooms of the Future—technology and teaching styles
- Parent Security
- Blended Learning—perhaps Tracy Smith could do this earlier in the year at the middle schools; discuss this from various perspectives:
 - Instructional side
 - Student perspective – have students share their experiences
 - Parent side – issues from parent perspective; latest apps kids use to hide things from parents; digital citizenship/footprints; implications, e.g., Common Sense Media, District Attorney program – perhaps this could be a separate night or start the CAC meeting earlier
- Parental Communication/Concern/Structure/Sharing/Advocacy
- Curriculum tracking and options; options outside of the classroom; have high school reps talk about those programs and curricular tracks
- Learning Support – special populations; speech therapy; gifted program
- CAC “Field Trips”

It was suggested that perhaps a few CAC meetings could be held during the daytime so parents could witness kids and programs in action, such as maker-space/coding, and to help parents understand the learning behind the activities. Involving kids in the presentations would not only give kids valuable practice with presentations, but it would also attract more parents to attend CAC meetings. Sharing things done at one elementary school through presentations at another school might be a good way to share ideas and showcase what each school is doing. Rotating the schools to host CAC meetings would be a way to showcase the various school buildings. Challenges of holding daytime meetings were acknowledged and discussed. Alternatives included video-taped presentations, CAC video sharing, 3 minutes on Facebook, 1 minute advertisement of CAC agenda prior to monthly meetings. Marie Maritch noted that the CAC Board will complete an article and perhaps work with the high school PMN students and Nicole McGalla to create a short video or commercial about the CAC. It was also mentioned that the CAC should try to get out to more school events.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:

Dr. Rod Troutman reported that the school district's Preliminary Budget will be presented to the School Board on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. He highlighted that the proposed budget will include a 1.89% increase instead of the 2.5% increase originally proposed. This was due to the hard work of staff members and the administrative team in collaboration with the Board, especially David Hein, who encouraged the re-examination of revenue assumptions from commercial property taxes. The Board is also expected to pass the Homestead/Farmstead exclusion. Many people will likely receive a rebate. Dr. Troutman shared his grave concern over the proposed elimination of property taxes and the significant negative implications this would have on our district's revenue streams.

STUDENT REPORT:

General:

- Senior Citizen dinner was held on May 11
- Prom was held on May 13
 - Prom Queen was Faith Nation
 - Prom King was Michael Jenkins
- Spring Keystones started on May 15 and will conclude on May 23
- Parkland's Got Talent is tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the auditorium

Arts

- 14th Annual Festival of the Arts started today and continues until Saturday
- Spring Chorus Concert is tonight
- Pippin received a total of 17 Freddy Award Nominations
 - Students who received individual nominations include: Max Hakim, Kayleigh Scott, Reese Diaz, Lisa Conte, Alex Atiyeh, and Mara Cohen
 - Freddy Awards are on May 25
- Visual and Performing Arts Awards will be on June 1, at 7 p.m.
- National Art Honor Society is auctioning off its members' artwork
 - Tickets are 1 for \$1 or 5 for \$3
 - Final auction is at Applebee's on Saturday May 27

Academics

- AP exams were the first two weeks of May
- Keystones were this week and will continue through the beginning of next week
- Academic Award Ceremony next Monday the 22nd
- Students competed at National History Day this past weekend
- The Science Fair Club brought their projects to the state PJAS competition. They received many first places and perfect scores for their projects.
- NHS has been collecting change to support veterans
- English classes have been supporting the Parkland for Sierra Leone project. So far, we have raised \$5,000 of our \$7,000 goal
- Governor's STEM state competition is tomorrow where PHS students will present their farming innovation

Athletics

- Playoff/post-season time for all spring sports
 - Boys volleyball and boys lacrosse lost in EPC's but are still in districts
 - Boys lacrosse ended 18-2 total, with the final loss to Central Catholic
 - Girls lacrosse won EPC's and are now also in districts
 - Boys track is still defending its long distance running in post season.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ROUNDTABLE: As this is the last meeting of 2016-2017, the group discussed that it has been a successful year. The group was anxious to go onto the concert and the Festival of the Arts.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

At 6:55 p.m., Melanie St. Hill called for a motion to adjourn. Lisa Hayducek moved, with Ann Segan seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Perlman-McKenna