

Minutes of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)  
March 28, 2022

Brooks Administration Building  
1305 Dares Beach Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM
2. The following members were present:

Volunteers:	Staff:
Alexsa Billups (Minutes)	Susan Johnson
Nicole Cooksey	Karen Maxey
Tia DeBrew (Chair)	Tony Navarro
Matt Deegan	
Wanda Hassler	
Claire Hill	
JC Hooker	
Laveeta Hutchins	
Darryl Jackson	
Tori Reigle	
3. Tia DeBrew opened the meeting by expressing that she wanted to shift the meeting a bit today to have an opportunity to get to know the rest of the members, as she is new to the community. She informed the committee that she is in the process of obtaining a Diversity and Inclusion Certification. She stated that we come from different backgrounds and that it is important for her that the committee get back together for our children.
4. DeBrew asked all the members about their experience in the CAC.
  - a. Wanda Hassler states she was on the first committee, about 30 years ago. She shared that the role of the CAC is to obtain a topic from the Board of Education (BOE) that requires further investigation which the BOE may not have time for. She expressed that the role of the CAC is to advise the BOE not tell them what to do. She further expressed that loss of volunteers hurts to committee.
  - b. DeBrew affirmed that it is natural for volunteer groups to decrease in numbers.
  - c. Karen Maxey, further affirmed that the drop in numbers are normal for this time of year and that there is generally a loss of 50% by Christmas.
  - d. JC Hooker shared the people want to attend the CAC to hear what is going on. She also states that this year may not be the best year to provide the BOE with reports.
5. DeBrew moved discussion to the group reports.
  - a. DeBrew shared that the committee should provide legacy issues that have been going. She also states her recommendations for the reports should include: Accomplishments/Good News, Challenges/Stuck, Getting to the Finish Line

- b. Nicole Cooksey shared that it is a difficult year to look at learning loss. Darryl Jackson was concerned about the quality that can be produced in two months. Tri Reigle asked if a report can be questions to be answered next year upon further evaluation. DeBrew she doesn't want to close out the CAC this year with nothing.
6. DeBrew then requested an update from each group.
- a. Matt Deegan provided the update for Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) group. Deegan asked what teachers looks for in order to recommend students to GATE and how are parents involved.
    - i. Claire Hill asked about demographics, drop out rates with AP students versus honors students and whether all students by socio-economic status are represented. She shared that she has had discussion with individuals in academia in MD universities as well as DE with regard to math.
    - ii. DeBrew reported that she learned of a group in Calvert County for Black males that offers mentorship, beginning in fifth grade.
    - iii. Hooker recommended that the CAC bring in speakers to further educate the groups.
    - iv. Hassler states that with a 92% pass rate, as recently reported, CCPS has to be doing something right.
  - b. Cooksey reported on the loss of learning group and stated that parents should be provided information on what is in place already. Cooksey recommended increased communication with parents. The group discovered a document in the BOE website called Reopening Plan that has information on learning loss, though one has to sift through other information to find it. A recommendation is to push this document out to the parents.
    - i. Susan Johnson states that the document typically goes out with the BOE agenda as mandated by the state.
    - ii. Reigle recommended that the information go out in orientation packets.
    - iii. DeBrew mentioned that the resources are available but parents may not know how to access them.
  - c. Reigle spoke on the Culturally Responsive Learning group and states that we need to move past being data driven to data informed. Reigle reported what the group is looking at is connected to the five year plan and that there are still many questions in the group such as: The number of teachers of color and how it is reflected. How can we prepare all teachers to teach.
    - i. DeBrew commented on the importance of networking and how she attended a seminar on Critical Race Theory (CRT) via the Calvert County Library that Hooker informed her about. DeBrew further state that community involvement helps the groups build information.
    - ii. Jackson asked about challenging discrete measures and what we can gather in the next year.

7. DeBew closed the meeting by summarizing that it appears there are more questions before reports can be completed. She further discussed the importance of diversity of thoughts coming together, building community and synergy, and being cordial despite disagreements.
8. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM. Next meeting is April 25, 2022 at 6:00 PM