

Harrisburg School District

Act 141 Advisory Committee Meeting

September 12, 2024

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

***In Attendance:***

***Committee Members:*** Dr. Sieta Achampong, Jody Barksdale, Melanie Cook, Dr. Marisol Craig, Laura Harding, Yvonne Hollins, Beth Light, Susan Roth, Dr. Andria Saia, Eugene Spells, Dr. Marcia Stokes, Dr. Lori Suski, Doug Thompson Leader, Dr. Tamara Willis

***Staff Members:*** None

***Public:*** None

- Dr. Suski welcomed everyone back from summer break and acknowledged the change in membership from Michele Rolko to Jody Barksdale as HEA President and representative on the committee. Members introduced themselves.
- Dr. Suski welcomed Mrs. Yvonne Hollins as the new part-time Chief Recovery Officer (CRO) replacing Dr. Travis Waters whose contract expired on June 30, 2024. Mrs. Hollins introduced herself to the group and expressed her excitement at returning to the Harrisburg SD in the capacity of CRO.
- Dr. Suski reviewed the amendment to the Recovery Plan that was approved by Judge Tully on July 18, 2024. Ms. Harding inquired about the initiative regarding health care and asked if the changes to the new plan resulted in a loss of teachers. Dr. Stokes explained that the High Qualified Deductible Health Plan (HQDHP) will result in employees becoming better consumers of their health care. Ms. Barksdale commented that new teachers cannot afford the plan with deductibles at \$1,600/\$3,200 compared to \$400/\$800 in the past. Ms. Light asked if the District pays for the Health Savings Account (HSA). Dr. Saia said that CAIU has a HQDHP and that it works very well once people get used to it. Ms. Barksdale explained the challenge of funding the HSA quarterly when prescriptions are now part of the deductible. Her prescription cost \$1,400 and the HSA funding was insufficient to cover that cost. Dr. Achampong said that her medications cost \$3,500. Dr. Suski shared that the move to the HQDHP was necessary as Capital Blue Cross was projecting a 15.92% increase in the District's health care renewal for 2024-25. Dr. Willis said that Susquehanna Twp SD also has a HQDHP. Dr. Saia shared that some plans

do not allow spousal coverage at all in response to a comment about the spousal surcharge of \$400 per month.

- Dr. Suski introduced the new Recovery Plan monitoring tool that PFM developed to track progress on the initiatives and goals of the plan. Mrs. Hollins explained the PFM visit to the District on September 10, 2024 and shared that the administration must submit evidence to her to be uploaded into the monitoring tool. Mrs. Hollins said she has been working on building a culture of trust with the administrative team to get buy-in.
- Dr. Suski explained that the exit criteria for the possible end of receivership involves the completion of the 62 initiatives and four (4) academic goals of the Recovery Plan in addition to the criteria outlined in Chapter 18 of the PA School Code.
- Dr. Suski shared the schedule for 2024-25 Advisory Committee meetings on the second Thursday of each month through June of 2025. She announced that Dr. Slaughter would be presenting the results of the Curriculum Audit at the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.