

Citizen Advisory Committee

Calvert County Board of Education

September 23, 2024 Minutes

Members Attended:

Denali Mohler
Felicia Sorrells
Ann Schultz
Michel Boules
Jenna Borman
Nicole Olea
Sarah Fowler
Greg Cooper
Christine Schrumpf
Emerson Deverteuil
Margot Densing
Andrew Clark
Crystal Honeycutt
Alicia Abresch
James Arthur
Maddie Stay
Emma Ann Nowak
JC Hooker
Kris Nicely
Deji Adeshiyan
Mary Walter
Randy Allen

Visitors/Guests:

Lisa Grenis, BOE Member
Jana Post, BOE Member

C.C.P.S Staff:

Dr. Susan Johnson, COO
Jackie Jacobs, CAO
Karen Maxey

Guest Presenters:

None

Documents for the Record:

- None

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. Staff and board members were introduced.

The Roles and Responsibilities of the CAC were shared.

The elections of the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary were conducted. One name for each position was submitted. The group unanimously agreed to appoint the following members as officers:

- Chair: Chris Nicely
- V. Chair: Crystal Honeycutt
- Secretary: Emmy DeVerteuil

The speaker for Transportation was unable to attend. Thus, an activity was held. Dr. Johnson and Ms. Jacobs asked each table to write down one concern for each department. This information will be used to help guide each department to provide valuable information to the CAC when they do their report. There will be presentations from each CCPS department at upcoming meetings.

Here are the concerns/questions gathered during this activity:

Other

- Provide a brief overview of audits each area goes through
- Budget shortfall effects
- All Audits
- Money spent on special programs and auditing requirements
- Cafeteria lunch times/food types
- Explain school district boundaries and long-term plans to balance occupancy rates
- Library Book evaluations
- Support for military families
- Car lines – school drop off and behavior of parents
- School system funding for activities such as marching band
- Teacher morale
- Unified Sports – what are they and when are they offered
- More communication about unified sports
- Where does the money from student parking go?

Transportation

- Transportation policy
- Overcrowded and pick up
- Who do you contact for a route issue?
- Bus Contracts
- Bus App
- Childcare/dual jurisdiction and transportation
- Route timeliness
- Route efficiency
- How can one person be the Director of Transportation and the Director of Athletics all at the same time? Isn't that a lot to handle?
- How will we address the bus driver shortage with budget cuts?
- Role of transportation department and contractors

Facilities

- Outdoor spaces for either instruction or down time
- Maintenance sheets outside the door for custodians to know when to restock – we are always out of paper towels and toilet paper, etc.
- School Gardens? Environmental science, agriculture program, gardening, clubs
- School safety inspections – timing

Special Education

- Is there a bump in IEP dismissal rates at the transition between E/M or M/H?
- Barriers to IEPs, information for parents, education
- Improving the IEP process
- SES did a great staff/parent book study on the “inclusion” topic. I’d encourage more opportunities for elementary schools.

Student Services

- Is there a bump in 504 dismissal rates at the transition between E/M or M/H?
- Improving the 504 process
- Building security
- Update with the vaping sensors in the restrooms
- Do the bathrooms have vape sensors and what is drug policy
- Utilizing tech to keep kids in live instruction vs home hospital program
- Discipline, no back up from parents and/or admin
- SRO role, Sherriff’s role, and principal (safety advocate)
- Referrals to community programs numbers and how can we increase it
- Mental health supports
- Security with ancillary campus buildings
- Speeches to student body like code of conduct assembly
- Mental health, utilize relationship with Calvert County behavioral health

Technology

- Budget cuts causing laptops to be shared in elementary school – how will this impact students’ ability to get work done at school?
- Who is allowed to communicate with students and when (through email)?
- 3-way email – parents cannot be copied or copy students.

Equity

- Equity Policy, MSDE, Comar
- Mental health/behavioral health equity
- Utilizing Calvert Country vs mainstream school (under utilized)
- How does “inclusion” policy/efforts take into consideration the needs of SE, GE, and advanced learner

Construction

- Is the road connecting CHS and CMS still under construction
- Love the website and list of projects! Is NMS on there yet? Timeline
- When will NMS be built and how will it be affected by budget cuts?

Human Resources

- Were substitutes trained over the summer?
- Teacher Retention
- How long does it take to get hired as a substitute?
- Is there still a shortage of substitute teachers?
- Onboarding timeline and manner
- Expand on supports such as counselors, SW, Psychs, IAs for students
- Budget cuts leading to position **cuts**, GT – how will it impact the program and the students ability to participate.

Instruction

- Amount of testing and time spent testing
- Why are quarterly assessments required? Couldn’t unit tests show enough improvement or understanding?
- AP Classes

- Professional training required DEI/Learning Styles
- Honors for all, Honors placement, how to qualify for honors
- How do you determine which courses run vs those that don't (AP specifically)
- Expand online/Summer course offerings for HS students
- Cursive
- GT heavily advertised in elementary and middle – what is GT at the HS level
- Multi-Lingual Learners – what translation services are offered

All Presentations

- 1 – Provide broad area of oversight
- 2 – Provide an overview of staffing assigned to your department
- 3 – Provide what audits happen for your department and timelines
- 4 - Big picture budgetary impacts
- 5 - Address the specific items on the list

Time was allocated for discussion with the board members: Ms. Grenis and Ms. Post.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Emmy DeVerteuil.