Superintendent's Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2025

AGENDA

1. Town Hall

Mr. Taylor provided an overview of the upcoming two Town Hall meetings. Members of the public will be allotted 90 seconds each to deliver public comments.

He reviewed the meeting protocols, emphasizing the importance of maintaining respect and civility to ensure that all voices are heard.

Superintendent Tavitian shared that her presentation would focus on four key factors relevant to the discussions at the Town Hall meetings.

2. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Mr. Taylor informed the committee that printed copies of the Frequently Asked Questions were available for members to take with them.

3. The Role of Ambassadors

Mr. Taylor acknowledged the committee's efforts in completing a challenging process and arriving at a single recommendation. He expressed appreciation for each member's role as an ambassador throughout the process.

He noted that this would be the final meeting of the committee, as the group has already submitted its recommendation to Superintendent Tavitian.

A member inquired about the next steps, specifically regarding the future use of the vacant facility.

Mr. Taylor explained that the next phase depends on the Board of Education’s final decision. If necessary, a 7-11 Committee will be formed to evaluate and recommend potential uses or the disposition of the surplus property.

Several members expressed concern about the property potentially being sold to the public rather than used for educational purposes.

Superintendent Tavitian responded that the community’s desire for a timely decision regarding the property’s future could be communicated to the Board.

A member asked about the cost of maintaining security while the property remains vacant.

Members agreed that, although the process has been difficult, the decision is ultimately intended to benefit students, as revenue from the consolidation could help enhance student services.

4. Next Steps

Members expressed their gratitude to Superintendent Tavitian for her leadership and for making difficult decisions that prioritize the district’s long-term success.

It was noted that staffing decisions cannot be finalized until after the Board’s final determination, which is expected at the Regular Board Meeting on December 16, 2025.

Superintendent Tavitian clarified that the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) will visit the district later this month. The visit is not due to financial distress, but rather at the district’s invitation to review and provide guidance on Special Education fiscal management.

She added that the district has already begun implementing cost-saving measures beyond the school consolidation, emphasizing that closing a school is part of a broader financial plan rather than the sole solution.