

Parent Advisory Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
October 14, 2020

Members in Attendance:

Janet Aguilar -- Adams
Haley Rivera-Gonzalez -- Alpha
Rafael Flores -- Chavez
Melody Mouton -- Dixieland
Leanna Prim -- Eastin-Arcola
Hilda Castrellon -- Furman
Diana Flores - MLK
Minerva Mendoza -- Madison
Mandy or Julia --Millview
Ines Salazar Hinostrozo -- Monroe
Martha Espinoza -- Parkwood
Doug Alton -- Pershing
Maryann Kent -- Sierra Vista
Belinda Dennison -- TJ Principal

Non-voting Members in Attendance:

Joetta Fleak, Board Trustee
Lucy Salazar, Board Trustee
Babatunde Ilori, Executive Director

Others in attendance:

Estrella Cortez, Administrative Assistant
Angelica Garcia, District Translator

1. Call to Order

- a. Melody Mouton called the PAC meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call – Introduction

- a. Estrella Cortez took roll call. 12 voting PAC members were present at the time of roll call and a quorum was established.

3. Adoption of Agenda

- a. Julie Herd made the first motion to adopt the agenda, Diana Flores made the second motion. Motion passed.

4. Elect PAC President, Vice President, and Secretary

- a. Melody Mouton was elected the PAC President, Haley Rivera-Gonzalez was elected PAC Vice President, and Minerva Mendoza was elected PAC Secretary.

5. Approval of Minutes

- a. Maryann Kent made a motion to approve the August 18, 2020, minutes. Haley Rivera-Gonzalez made the second motion. Motion passed.

6. Opportunity for public input

- a. No public comment.

7. Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan

- a. Babatunde Ilori announced that the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan was emailed to each member of the PAC in English and Spanish and that it was also available on the district website.

8. Discussion and Feedback on Current State of Distance Learning

- a. Leanna (Eastin-Arcola elementary)- Would like to see students back in school full time, "I'll sign a waiver if I have to."
 - i. Is there a plan to return to school physically? A date? Are charter schools back?
 1. Babatunde - our plan is for students to return to school physically once it is safe to do so, this includes abiding by the health and safety guidelines from our health department
- b. Haley (Alpha elementary)- Homework load at Alpha is too much
 - i. Additional Khan Academy and Espark, ridiculous how much he has to be on the computer
 - ii. Concern for health of her child, student has pulmonary problems
- c. Kim (Howard elementary) (Zoom Chat Messages) - The workload is too much, too fast actually. They needed more time learning how to turn things in, etc. before moving on so quickly. My son has been trying to catch up.
 - i. Haley - I agree Kim! Having to play catch-up is crazy, and these kids are stressed out trying to do so.
 - ii. Melody - It's definitely complicated to balance the Zoom classes and homework, there needs to be consistency throughout the grade levels and consideration given to students, on how much time is spent on their devices!
 - iii. Maryann - I agree too, my daughter has been going through the same thing teachers are impatient with the kids also they raise their voices i don't see how that helps them learn
- d. Doug (Pershing elementary) - painful overload of homework and daily assignments, I don't see benefit to excessive screen time
 - i. Other schools in the county have applied for a waiver and it was approved, why has Madera Unified not applied?
 - ii. 6 Madera elementary schools have submitted waivers
 - iii. "American Pediatrics Association recommendations are one hour of screen time a day, teachers role call throughout the day to ensure students are in front of the screen and that's excessive, stressful for students, we're going to see students with vision problems due to too much screen time, United States Census Bureau says 50% of Americans reported having anxiety and depression due to the shutdowns, obesity is also higher, teachers have had to work twice as hard because of COVID, they would want to see school start back up"
 - iv. Would like to know how we will address the issues?
- e. Minerva - I want to thank the teachers for all that they are doing right now, teachers are doing the best they can
 - i. Worried about son going back to school, concerned that teachers will spend a lot of time keeping students separated
 - ii. how is the school district going to handle cleaning, keeping the restrooms clean, cleanliness, I don't feel I want to put my kids through coming back to school, don't feel safe enough to where I'm willing to send my student to school, worried,
 - iii. There are going to be parents who will not be able to send students to school for only half the day if they have to work
 - iv. Teachers spend quite a bit of time having to help with tech support, there should be more tech support from a department, also in different languages because my

son is in the DLI program, we need to take into consideration that some teachers are having to help social-emotional with students, for example one student was crying during the Zoom class and the teacher had to stop and address it and it was because his grandmother past away from COVID

- f. Ines (Monroe elementary) - thank you to all the staff for doing what they are doing as well as parents for the sacrifice they are making, it's a risk to open schools now
 - i. I agree that students are receiving too much homework especially on Wednesdays, too much screen time, consider more workbook assignments instead of having to be on the internet all day, turn it in on Wednesdays, parents also need to learn and adapt to this new normal, we all need to do our part, given the circumstances, teachers are doing the best they can, students are getting better at technology but are losing out on handwriting and those motor skills
 - ii. I purchased blue light glasses for my child to help with the excessive screen time
- g. Melody (Dixieland elementary) - my son said it's quite boring, they need to spice it up and address the students that are advanced and just sit there, a lot of time is wasted getting students on track, students that don't get in trouble get disengaged when time is wasted
 - i. I hope the district will give parents options because not everyone feels the same, parents should have the option to choose
- h. Julie (Millview elementary) - currently my husband and I work so our children go to daycare and they Zoom in a church hall with 20 kids, kids are just sitting in front of a screen, kids are not able to interact with each other
 - i. It would be devastating to go back to school and two weeks later have to turn around and reclose schools and go back to distance learning, an outbreak that would be detrimental to the kids, K-3 need to go back the most
- i. Leonard Perez (Monroe elementary) - thank you to the parents for providing their feedback, we're gonna do what's safest for kids and teachers, I applaud everyone from parents, students, teachers, trustees, district staff, and administrators for the sacrifices they have made, they've had to make many changes in such a short amount of time
- j. Hilda Castellon (Furman High) - Furman has 9-12 graders that are behind on credits and they are struggling
 - i. even though they only have to meet once a week, these students have depression, anxiety, health issues, we noticed a lot of our students shut down when we went on the shutdown,
 - ii. teachers are also cheerleaders trying to encourage them, students and teachers are having social-emotional issues, teachers are trying to be flexible
 - iii. we are independent study and this can be an option for some students, Furman doesn't have all the resources as other schools but it can be an option, even maybe adding a 7th & 8th grade class
- k. Rafael (Chavez elementary) - How can parents get support to work with children?
 - i. Babatunde - we recommend that you first get in touch with your school site admin team for support

9. Discussion and Feedback on Hybrid Learning

- a. Text here.

10. PAC Member Updates

- a. The PAC voted to table this item due to time constraints.

11. Announcements

- a. Next PAC meeting - November 4, 2020, at 5:45 p.m.

b. Discuss Future Agenda Items

12. Adjournment

a. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.