Superintendent's Advisory Council

Minutes May 24, 2017 9 to 11 a.m. MISD Board Room

Members Present: Stephanie John-Lewis, Evelyn Jimenez, Amy Kerby, Elaine McClellan, Vicki Puckett (for Jamie Prescott), Sarah LeClercq, Alison Stovall, Rory Murphy, Jon Ho, Janelle Honeycutt, Cindy Goetzmann, Brian Giannini-Upton, Jerry Kavesh, Suzanne Riley, Jackie Brown, Dr. Goichi Shiotsu, Myra Lupton, Emmett Maloof, Tracy Drinkwater, Dr. Gary Plano, Fred Rundle, Craig Degginger. Guests present: Jennifer Wright.

Absent: Michael Aguilera, Ashleigh Dickinson, Tom Tivnan, Mike Radow, Beth Dudycha, Mindi Oberg Wilson, Debbie Hanson, Mary Kay Woolston, James Bellitto, Channing Martin, Julie Steel, Cindy Goodwin, Jaimie Shea, Jackie Brown, Janae Serena, Dan Grausz, Nova Williams.

Welcome/Introductions and Check-In

Dr. Plano asked committee members to describe their plans for the summer.

Review and Approve Minutes (March 7, 2017 meeting)

The minutes were approved unanimously with the change noting that Channing Martin was in attendance.

Develop and Finalize Agenda

Superintendent Topics:

2016-17 budget issues and planning for 2017-18

Fred Rundle showed slides showing a large increase to 160 in ELL, growing to an estimated 165 for 2017-18. This is a challenge as the district attempts to stretch those dollars but not seeing increases in funding. There has been a greater allocation for staffing for the categorical programs however.

He also showed slides for Title III and the TBIP, transitional bilingual instruction program.

The district has added a second ELL teacher at the elementary level, and adding hours to paraeducators, spending funds out of basic education for that as well. Title III funds have trained 13 teachers in GLAD for ELL families.

Title I funding: These funds are tied to Free/Reduced lunch numbers, now typically 3 to 5 percent. Federal budget proposals would significantly decrease funding for Title I.

Title II funding: Used for professional development, the federal governments has proposed a 50 percent decline and elimination of the program in 2018-19.

WaKids

The district offers tuition free all-day kindergarten and the district receives a modest allocation for WaKids while the program costs much more.

Elementary

The Literacy coaches' positions are being eliminated.

There will be a 3.5 FTE reduction from 2016-17

There will be 2.5 less kindergartens (no half day planned for 17-18) Fred acknowledged the Board receiving input from families regarding class size and from those feeling that the district should reduce the number of associate principals at the elementary level. But with more than 50 certificated and classified employees to evaluate, that isn't a viable option.

IMS/MIHS

Fred discussed middle school and high school staffing, noting families' desire for the high school to offer Calculus B/C and AP Spanish, but that it needed the enrollment for those classes to be offered. There have also been discussions on classes to eliminate, but what one person values another may not. There will be no change in the 7-period day.

Dr. Plano acknowledged the suggestions but said he has tried not to micromanage if parents are unhappy. They can start with the principal according to policy 4220.

He said there will be no RIF, or reduction in contract status. District wide, one custodian is not being replaced, one Learning Services administrative position is being eliminated, as is one business services administrative position, six classified hours a day district wide and 2 HR hours a day.

Curriculum Adoptions this spring include

6th grade Language Arts

6th grades Social Studies for ancient civilizations

8th grade literature text

Elementary adoptions, K-5 writing program and science program 9th grade technology course with business technology featured

Superintendent Search/Tracy Drinkwater
Web page updated weekly following regular special meetings
Search firm selected, flyer for position completed, article summarizing the
search to be published in the Reporter to update the public.
Updated timeline set with expecting to have finalists at the latter part of June

Retirement Party for Gary Plano to be determined.

Lakeridge Elementary principal opening: Jenny McAlaine departing and position being opened, seeking input through Lakeridge PTSA to name parent volunteers to join an interview team, seeking staff input, position closes 6/6.

New parent event date TBD with our community partners (since set for October 11)

SAC topics

Dress code IMS

Dr. Plano showed the clothing regulations, for IMS in its student handbook The policy concerns if it is offensive and interrupts the learning environment, keeping in mind the balance between student freedom vs. interrupting the learning environment.

Bus crowding

A member expressed a concern from others that buses were too crowded, Dr. Plano said he would check with Transportation.

Another member asked if a stop arm camera bus could be assigned to a LR bus route on Island Crest Way, and Dr. Plano said he would check on that as well.

SBAC

Jennifer Wright addressed the purpose of the Smarter Balanced Assessments and why it is required and how it is used.

Washington is part of the Smarter Balanced consortium, sophomores will need to meet the standards to graduate, also the results are used in grades 3-8 for fed accountability; if we did not participate, wouldn't receive that federal funding, including for categorical programs.

She noted that there are different sets of graduation requirements for current sophomores and freshmen from those for juniors and seniors.

The SBAC provides the District with data year to year and shows us what is happening with individual students, and truly is an indicator of how we are doing as a school, district and nationally.

Dr. Plano noted that three schools recently received Washington Achievement Awards, based on high growth, which means a lot given how proficient our students already are.

In his farewell meeting as superintendent, Dr. Plano thanked the SAC members for their service and support and he will have wonderful memories of these meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.