



Minutes January 29, 2019

Present:

Tai Choice
Carrie Cothran-Williams
Laura Ludwig
Laura Orlando
Erin Ysasi
Serena McMillon
Daniel Amador
Ana Lawrence
Laurie Hunter
Amanda Moore
Collin Garoute
Rosa Waters
Gloria Franco
Jeff Armstrong
Brad Angermeier
Joanna Brown
Dawn Piper
Ryan Case

I. Call to Order/Review Minutes (3 minutes)

Minutes from previous meeting approved.

II. Citizens' Communication (if needed) (4 minutes)

Mrs. Franco: Some parents expressed concern about seeing what they believed to be extra security. Ms. Choice explained that we have two officers who were covering one position. New, full-time officer will be hired soon.

Pedestrian Crossing: City removed a crosswalk on Brodie because they want students to cross at the Brodie/Wm. Cannon one. Reports of students crossing while traffic moving.

Mrs. Ludwig said she would mention safety concerns to Amy Ishee for possible SEL/Success lessons.

Mrs. Hunter said toner cartridges may be sent to bookkeeper Laura Teague. Box tops go to PTA box in the W. Office.

III. Review District Budget/ Provide Input on Campus Budget (50 minutes)

Ms. Choice reviewed the district's budget priorities: They are for every child to thrive, read, and excel. The district is currently fiscally sound, but several things are impacting its ability to stay that way.

First, she said affordability and lower birth rates have affected AISD. The first is driving young families to surrounding communities. People in the city typically are older and do not have children. Both lower our student numbers. We are paid per student.

Second, recapture, when property rich school districts send money to property poor ones, is negatively affecting us. AISD will send millions back this year. The district is working with the legislature to change the way we fund public schools.

Among what the district will NOT cut: full-day pre-k; career launch and early college

HS model; teaching six of eight periods for secondary; K - 4th-grade staffing allocations

Staffing at secondary is planned for 29-1, but that can change. At Covington, we are looking at 1-30. We will change the delivery method for special education but students will not be negatively affected.

About questions regarding staffing reductions: vast majority should be absorbed by natural attrition (resignations, transfers, retirement). Integrity of the dual language program won't be affected.

Although media has talked about closing schools, Ms. Choice said she hasn't heard which - if any - are being considered. She said student enrollment may

not be the only issue. The district will look at facilities' utilization.

Covington is above projected enrollment, and the feeling is that we will continue to grow. Mrs. Lawrence said we had over ten students who toured the building last week. Mrs. Hunter said the more we can invite students and parents into the building, the better. Ms. Choice said we are ramping up marketing efforts. Mrs. Franco said to remember that parent and students reviews on sites like Great Schools, Next Door, and Yelp are important sources of information for parents who are shopping for a school.

A suggestion was made that we could give parents easy access by providing a link from our school website to Ten Reasons to choose Covington along with positive data from our parent surveys. Cynthia Rodriguez manages our school website. Ms. Choice said we could request reviews as well at our parent events, and Mrs. Hunter suggested we ask 8th-grade parents to provide examples of positive reviews.

In conclusion, although the district is currently fiscally sound, without changes, it will not be able to fully fund everything it wants/needs to do in the future. Budget talks will address those changes. The budget is planned and prepared from June through November. The budget is developed from November through April. The budget is adopted between April and June. It will be implemented after board approval sometime this summer.

The district will begin hosting community budget forums this spring.

In other news, CMS will undergo construction over Spring Break. Maroon gates will be put in place to restrict access to the building. NOTE: The traffic pattern will shift accordingly. We will be training students in navigating the gates and new access points to the building.

IV. Spring Credit Recovery Process Update (5 minutes):

Mrs. Waters said that we mailed out about 100 letters and received 40 back. Students can recover an entire semester or a portion of one. Students may also attend and get high school credit, but they must pass to do so. We will send out more letters at the end of the six weeks.

Math has the highest number of students. Math will meet Tuesday and Thursday after school. Reading will meet Wednesday and Thursday after school. It will take about four to six weeks to recover one class if attending two days a week. It will take eight to nine weeks to recover a semester.

VI. PTA Report (5 minutes)

PTA has \$308.83 in checking and \$754.83 in savings.

The marquee is in the works.

PTA gave out 22 meals in partnership with the Vine in December.

Campus Beautification Day: March 3

Received a \$1000 grant for 150 meals. More information later.

Bingo Night is this Thursday.

PTA helped Cuningham ES honor a retiring counselor whom many of our students had with a card.

Please promote parent surveys!

VII. Questions/Concerns (2 minutes)

NOTE: Mrs. Lawrence will chair the CAC during Laura Ludwig's maternity leave.

VIII. Next Agenda Items: (3 minutes)---Next CAC Meeting: February 26, 2019

-Discuss Federal No Child Left Behind funding (Title 1) for upcoming school year