

City of Hyattsville
Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 25, 2022

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Cindy Totten

Nick Misukanis

Candida Garcia

Melinda Baldwin

Maira Delao

Mai Abdul Rahman

Additional Members:

Pamela Boozer-Strother

Councilman Jimmy McClellan

Michael Charles

Roll Call

Quorum - Achieved

Approval of March 2022 Minutes

Mai Abdul Rahman moves to approve, Melinda Baldwin seconds. Unanimous approval

Approval of August 2021 Minutes

Melinda Baldwin moves to approve, Nicholas Misukanis seconds. Unanimous approval.

Agenda

1. Overview of meeting with City Administrator

- a. Address student challenges for SY 22-23: ARPA Funds to address Hyattsville Title 1 Students, Committee Recommendation, and Meaningful Engagement with school principals.

MAR: Unfortunately, many of the issues we are facing this year will be what we face next year. The City wants to defer to PG County when possible. Is there a contingency plan we could come up with. Suggestions we make must be temporary and we want to make that clear when we propose solutions and funding proposals. There is a current proposal for parents and relatives to utilize city busses in order to get children should an emergency happen. We also want to try and make sure our notes and discussions are flowing to the City Council. We should consider reforming the Educational grants and perhaps putting limitations on the amount one institution can receive. We should also review the rules about attendance rules.

MB: Mai, is there anyway you could give a report to City Council in order to convey these messages?

MAR: We should as a committee design a system for the longevity of the committee.

Pamela Boozer-Strother: I just want to convey that I am happy to help as we move forward. I see a lot of the same issues going forward. Unfortunately, the suppers program was a federal program and we can look into it more but it was not a state effort. We can request it be covered again.

- b. Outcome of EAC letter to council and proper procedures

2. Council Response to Summer Enrichment Program

Councilman Jimmy McClellan: I can look more into the comprehensive list and follow up with you.

3. Education Enrichment Grant review

- a. What went well, what needs to be modified or changed
- b. Move application process earlier in school year
- c. Draft a more clearly articulated application

MAR: Do we want to reform the process? Remove the AAR? How can we make sure that not one school absorbs all of the money?

MD: Are we making sure that this is getting communicated with all of the schools?

MAR: Could we push the timeline forward? Should we extend the timeline to use the funds?

4. Conflict resolution program for Hyattsville students

MAR: Is there anything we can do?

Sandra - City of Hyattsville: We have worked quite a bit in organizing workshops to look at working with teachers about de-escalating conflicts and being socially and emotionally aware of what is happening with students and asking why they are acting the way they are?

MAR: Would it be possible to invite principles to come speak with us and raise awareness about this program?

5. Anticipated closure of homeless shelter housing 88 underage children

MAR: There is a homeless shelter in Beltsville, is there anything we can do? Can we alert the council members? Is there a way we could work with non-profits?

CT: Would someone be able to review the program application with me?

MD: I would be able to!

Questions for Principles:

How could we communicate our Summer Enrichment programs more with their staff or could they help us get the word out?

What do they anticipate with COVID? What will the major changes be as it has become clear that COVID is not going away.

Was it helpful with the supplies we provided? Should we change what we provide?

What can we do for the teachers? Or the students who are at risk of homelessness?

6. Public Comment

Motion to conclude the meeting: Unanimous approval