

EAC 12/27 Meeting Minutes

Roll Call: Attending Committee Members - Mai Abdul Rahman, Nick Misukanis, Candida Garcia, Michelle Thornton, Sandra Shephard

Quorum: Achieved

Other attendance – Daniel Peabody, Saarah Abdul Rauf,

Other attendees – 1 community member

Approval of November 2021 Agenda

Approval of November 2021 Meeting Minutes - approved

Discussion Items:

1. Welcome & Introductions (5 minutes)
2. Approval of EAC letter to City Council regarding transportation delays? (5 minutes)
 - **MR:** Motion to approve the final draft and send to the city council unanimous approval
3. Education Enrichment Grant Program (10 minutes)
 - a. Amount Update
 - b. Timeline Revisions
 - **MR:** Do we want to review the criteria? We need to update the language on the form so that it reflects the dates from this year. ●
 - **NM:** How many do we on average get?
 - **MR & MT:** Somewhere between 6-10
 - **MR:** Could we consider increasing the award to \$1000 in hopes of attracting more applicants? For now, let's change the dates and the language.
 - **SAR:** We have a scheduled meeting for January 24th. The window for the application will be the 7th - 31st.
 - **DP:** Last year was the first year where we had money left over. Just wanted to say that we are still in an environment where field trips and other proposals are limited. This is what the majority of the money is used towards.

4. Discussion of November 22nd Meeting (10 minutes)

- a) What we learned?
 - b) How are we going to leverage knowledge learned to improve committee efficacy in responding to the immediate needs of our school community?
 - c) How can we advise City Council based on what we learned?
- **MR:** What did we learn in this meeting? Useful encounter? It seems as though some of the kids are waiting until 7:00 and potentially having them donate snacks while they wait for their buses. Transportation is complicated but we could potentially donate gift cards to aid in this effort. Uber or Lyft gift cards could be donated so that students could get their children to and from school. Things will get better as the year progresses. The app is having issues but we are hoping to fix it up.
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5. Inviting Hyattsville School Principals to our Meetings (5 minutes)

- a. Staff Liaison role in invitations
 - **SS:** Do we want to invite private school principals as well? To create a conversation between both?
 - **MR:** This is a wonderful point, we want to absolutely include this as an avenue for communication. Do we know if private schools are also eligible for our grants?
 - **SAR:** As long as the school is within the city of Hyattsville, they are eligible.

6. Bus Drivers Needed at PGCPs (5 minutes)

- a. City Communications can share
- b. Committee members are encouraged to share
 - **SAR:** Something that had been mentioned in the last meeting was that bus driver positions were being mentioned in job fairs. Perhaps this is something we could emphasize and try to communicate.
 - **MT:** Job security is something we need to figure out how to communicate. As COVID cases rise, the bus drivers would be impacted if schools continue to be closed and everything in person is pushed back.

- **SS:** The other duties of the bus drivers can cover their jobs. They can also deliver food to communities and get paid. It would depend on their contracts but in most cases they get paid in the summer.
- **MR:** How do we envision communicating this position to others? Furthermore, the bigger picture is trying to help students so that they don't have to stay there until 7pm.

7. Updates from Staff Liaison on Letter to Council Summer 2021 (10 minutes)

- a. Council will discuss distribution of funds from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) during an upcoming session early next year, 2022
- b. Inviting Patrick Paschall to an EAC meeting to provide us an overview of how funds may or may not be used to better advise the City Council on how to use them to support education

- **SAR:** The city has received a portion of ARPA funds and has hired Patrick Paschall to speak with us about what he has planned out and where the funds can actually be used.
- **SS:** This would be a fantastic opportunity so that we can understand where the funds should go and where they are needed. Being able to understand what we can do.
- **SAR:** The other thing we want to talk with Patrick about is something that is sustainable. We don't want band-aid solutions and we should take advantage of Patrick's knowledge of this as a valuable resource.

8. Giving Tuesday Sock and Undergarment Drive (5 minutes)

- a. Updates
- b. Future Plans

- **MR:** We had about 480 items to distribute. Sandra was essential in this process and she was engaged with the community and she was the key to getting this project off the ground and successfully carried out.
- **SS:** I'm thrilled with how this worked and I am here to assist in anyway that I can!

9. Bus Transportation Delays (5 minutes)

- a) Snacks for students waiting their turn to board late buses?
- b) P.G.C.P.S. homeless student population? How can we help our own?

c) Services that could help Hyattsville's Title I students in need of support to attend school related activities? Cover transportation fees?

Therapy?

d) Hyattsville Middle School students missing 1- 2 instructional periods? Actions and remedies?

10. Preventing school conflicts and violence through intervention: Developing a positive school culture (10 minutes)

- **MT:** We offer a training session for individuals to learn the skills of mediating and aiding in resolutions for students. We are always looking to have more people come and help in hopes of providing more resources. It is all volunteer based. It goes into how to ask questions without being judgmental and it offers an informal approach. It also tries to offer logic to get through these conversations.

11. Looking Ahead (10 minutes)

a. Summer youth program proposal?

- **MR:** We should look to increase awareness on the fact that children at the age of 16 can vote. We want to begin including them in more conversations because their votes actually play a role in what is happening. We should include our council liaisons to come speak about this. Do we want to set aside some time for this for our next meeting?

- **MR:** Is there anything we can do about Homelessness? Perhaps this is something we could do as a committee or consider something for future committee meetings.

12. Public Comment (10 minutes)

Question: Has the collegiate matriculation rate increased for African American and Latinx males from 2017-2020 for NW high school? If not, why has it not increased and how is collegiate enrollment being increased for these at risk groups?

MR: I will look more into this and get back to you.

Meeting adjourned: 8:03pm