

City of Hyattsville Education Advisory Committee
March 19, 6:30 - 8 p.m.
Virtual Public Meeting on Zoom
Open to the Public

Attending:

Mai Abdul Rahman, co-chair; Michelle Thornton, co-chair; Candida Garcia; Jennifer Kubit; T. Carter Ross; Saarah Adbul-Rauf (staff); and Bart Lawrence (council liaison).

Regrets: Melinda Baldwin, vice chair; Jan Edwards; Dan Peabody (council liaison); Brayan Perez (staff); and Cynthia Totten.

Guests: Maristela Romero

I. Committee Business

Co-Chair Abdul Raham called the meeting to order at 6:45 and approved the meeting agenda. Review of prior meeting minutes was tabled.

II. Education Advisory Grants Remaindered Funds

Ross relayed back the list of items mentioned as possible needs during the March 4 Principals' Meeting. A possible option suggested would be to divide the funds equally among the 10 schools reopening in April (\$719 each). The question is how best can the schools use the funds and would it be better to disperse the funds to a school's PTA, if there is one? After further discussion the committee decided the schools would be best positioned to apply the funds to meet their needs.

Ross proposed the following motion:

The EAC requests that the Council move swiftly to disperse equally among the 10 schools reopening in April the remaining \$7,190 in funds from the Education Enrichment Grant program. The committee asks that the funds be provided to each school or its PTA at the option of the principal.

The motion was seconded by Jen Kubit and passed unanimously.

The 10 schools returning in April are Hyattsville ES, University Park ES, Edward Felegy ES, Rogers Heights ES, Rosa L. Parks ES, Nicholas Orem MS, Hyattsville MS, William Wirt MS, Northwestern HS, and Bladensburg HS.

III. Request for County Support

Co-chair Abdul Rahman proposed the committee ask the Council to draft a letter requesting the county and state meet the significant challenges school staff, teachers, and students will likely face during the school transition period. In particular, she mentioned the necessary social and emotional support mentioned by principals during the March 4 meeting.

In discussion, it was suggested the committee consider drafting a letter noting the mental health needs of PGCPs staff and students as expressed during the March 4 Principals' Meeting and asking the Council to write a letter to state and county officials urging that appropriate funding and resources be directed to meet this need.

Ross had to leave the meeting at 7:28, leaving the committee without a quorum.