

Health & Safety DAC Meeting Notes 11-25-19

Start 7:04

General Business—Ohara Price is going to be an ongoing SWAG member attending DAC meetings but not in attendance this evening. Minutes from 9/23 and 11/4 approved.

Public Comments: Special guest, Dr Ben Drati

- Described a two year conversation with the Board regarding the budget and transition to Basic Aid. There has been a lot of learning and now a common understanding formed
- Acknowledge what we do well – respect, community support, academic achievement
- School receives \$42 million from taxes, hotels, local (above state funds)
- Disparities – achievement gaps, racial and socioeconomic gaps
- Noguera (researcher, consultant with district findings:
 - Lack of consistent implementation
 - Isolation and fragmentation within schools
 - Decreased coherent and cohesive focus related to teaching
 - Culture of opposition
- Expenditures outweigh revenues – bottom line (85% is employees)
- Next 3 years operating on avg \$6 million structural deficit
- Enrollment has been declining but staff wasn't necessarily adjusted
- Educating students can't just be about passing tests – multifaceted context each student comes with
- Suggested process for improvement:
 - Focus – mutual agreement and trust
 - Traditional excellence – academics, visual/performing arts, community engagement
 - New practices – authentic, prep for potential, socio-economic/cross cultural components
 - Realignment – current reality and opportunity
- New focus group – Budget Advisory Committee
 - Stakeholders from community
 - 2 year project, facilitated by ones that worked with Pasadena district
 - Open application or leadership that is already existing
 - Wide representatives including students and staff
 - Goal of committee to begin work in January
- DAC group comments:
 - Stephanie mentioned how the initial findings could be taken as offensive by current staff. Dr Drati said no one was surprised. Stephanie also suggested that some of the culture should be changed by looking at how new staff are onboarded
 - Pat questions basic aid/ how are committee members being selected. Dr. Drati explained
 - Jane budget cuts already happening. Dr. Drati said yes reserves are not enough and LACO expecting 3 million reduction by Spring even without committees input

- Jane how do we take this budget info and it influences are groups charges? Dr. Drati and Mark commented on it should be the lens that we look through as we make best practice recommendations
- Ralph added that plan should include resources we have and we can better realign those resources

Report from SMFD/SMPD: N/A, not in attendance

Report from Board Liaison: Ralph Mechur, no updates at this time.

Report from SMMSUD Staff: Mark Kelly

- Board approved the next 3 years of calendars, changing the template
- Wednesday before thanksgiving pupil free
- Continue 2 weeks at winter and spring breaks

Returning Business: Stephanie

- Stephanie to follow up with Shuli regarding student reps at meeting (including Malibu)

New Business: Stephanie

- Introduced a model for reviewing the Wellness Policy sections as having the policy and regular review is part of requirement for participating in free and reduced lunch (federal standard)
- Nurses are accountable for implementation
- Lora was working on reviewing an assessment tool. Susan to look at what is available and bring info to next meeting. Shuli may have some of this as well.
- Group suggested bringing Wellness Policy next time and model what the review process might look like
- Recommend sending policy to group to prepare for next meeting

Next meeting on January 27, 2020 (error on agenda)

Adjourn 9:08