

Masterman School Advisory Council - November 19, 4:55 – 6:20 PM

Attendees:

Marjorie Neff	III.B.1 (Principal)	
Louis Borda	III.B.2 (PFT Building Rep)	
Tara Hayden	III. B.3 (HSA Representative)	
Kim Neu	III.B.6 (Department Head)	
April Claytor	III.C.2 (Teacher)	
Carolyn Gray	III.C.2 (Teacher)	
Donna Amit	III.C.2 (Teacher)	Not present
Justin Weaver	III.C.2 (Teacher)	Not present
Kathleen Dopkin	III.C.2 (Teacher)	
Nicole Geiger	III.C.2 (Teacher)	
Jane Monaghan	III.C.2 (Teacher)	Not present
Susan Stranix	III.C.2 (Teacher)	Not present
Andrea Appel	III.C.2 (Parent)	
Eden Kainer	III.C.1 (Parent)	
Marian Gervasi	III.C.1 (Parent)	
Mathew Whitehorn	III.C.1 (Parent)	
Meg Wise	III.C.1 (Parent)	
Sam Garst	III.C.1 (Parent)	
Anndee Hochman	III.C.1 (Parent Alternate)	
Bridget McFadden	III.C.1 (Parent Alternate)	
Jeanne Ortiz	III.C.1 (Parent Alternate)	Not present
Yvonne Lee Clayton	III.C.1 (Parent Alternate)	Not present
Eli Levy	Student (High School SGA President)	
Alex Kwok	Student (High School SGA Vice President)	Not present
Jessica Celli	Student (Middle School SGA President)	
Ranim Albarkawi	Student (Middle School SGA Secretary)	
Marylou Finch	Parent	
Laura Richlin	Parent	

**November 19<sup>th</sup>**

1. Meeting opened 4:55PM.
2. Minutes approved minutes from last meeting
3. Principal's report
  - School Operations Officer and counselor restored. Do not have the Senior Secretary back. Masterman still short six teachers
  - There is still no Mentally Gifted (MG), classes as of now. Many sixth grade parents are requesting for MG testing. They have been tested and identified but there are still no classes.
  - Home and School had a phenomenal membership campaign. 74% of Middle School (MS), parents are members; but only 30% of High School (HS) parents. Central and Science Leadership Academy have better membership than Masterman. Several ideas to boost high school participation were discussed.
  - Report card conferences are Wednesday, (12/04/2013) and Thursday (12/05/2013); there will be an evening conference on Wednesday.
4. High School Report
  - Can food drive is ending Mon 11/15/2013
  - Clothing drive - National Honor Society - ending this Friday, 11/22/2103

- Auditions for the musical are being held now
  - Health Fair will be the Friday before winter break (12/20/2013)
  - Senior Solstice – last day of school , Monday, 12/12/2013 – Please encourage senior to attend
  - African American Club assembly and Talent show being planned.
5. Middle School Report
- Just finished “Operation Santa Claus”, which was a huge success
  - Pretzel sale still going, had to decrease the amount of pretzels bought
  - 7th and 8th grade Valentine’s Day Dance Committee - MS is looking at dates and talking to Mr. Otarola
  - “Pennies for Pasta”, in the works
  - Trying to coordinate MS fundraisers with HS fundraisers (so they do not compete and overlap)
6. Home and School Association (HSA), Report
- HAS is getting ready for the auction on 3/22/2013.
  - Skating party scheduled for 12/06/2013
  - Plans for another parent night out at the Union League will be scheduled for late January or early February
  - Parent getting anxious about principal replacement process and are asking a lot of questions
  - Ms. Neff will request a link on Edline website so parents can get agenda and minutes from HSA
  - Directories were delivered and are being dispersed and look really good
7. Principal Search Report
- Steering committee is modeling selection process on Central's and site selection, which was outlined last month.
  - School District of Philadelphia (SDP) will post ad, selection committee will review resumes, select subset to interview, conduct interviews, possible hold second round of interviews and inform SDP of selection. All members will need to sign non-disclosure agreements, per SDP policy (and good practice).
  - Steering committee will determine size and composition of selection committee, and write out final selection process by end of December. Proposal will be submitted to SDP in January.
  - Selection committee is likely to be 12 people, including teachers, parents, a student, an alumni, an SDP representative, and a community member. Parents and teachers to be drawn from SAC, as they are elected representatives. Largest group will be teachers, followed by parents.
  - Several suggestions to engage parents in selection committee.
  - o Online survey to determine what factors are more important to parents.
  - o Have a Town Hall type panel where the candidates talk to a larger group of parents. This is problematic, as we must respect candidates right to privacy (they may not want their application known, in case they are not offered position).
  - o Present selection process to all Masterman parents at HSA meeting, explain how selection committee members were determined, and ask for their input.
  - Ms. Neff also suggested that we look at Community College as our partner and to look to them for guidance.
8. Middle States Accreditation Report
- Faculty has met and expressed their ideas as to where their focus should be. As of now, ideas were varied across the board so there is no decision as of yet. Two more meetings planned.
9. Valedictorian Update
- Discussed how valedictorian is selected. Masterman students are not ranked, and many students get the highest possible grade point average.
  - Not many schools publish how they select valedictorians. We looked at a proposal based on one school's selection process, which combined grades, leadership and involvement, community service, attendance, and discipline. Students would apply to be valedictorian. Note that valedictorian is the SGA president.
  - Specific question: should a student attend some minimum number of years to be eligible. Informal vote of SAC members and determined that three years of attendance.
  - Formal presentation and vote at next SAC meeting (Dec. 17th).
10. Meeting adjourned 6:20 PM