

# Parkland Community Advisory Council

February 18, 2010

**CO-PRESIDENTS**

Nicole Mandry  
David Hein

**VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP**

Deb Martin

**SECRETARY**

Melissa Maggioncalda

**ATTENDEES :** Lisa Adams, Nicole Mandry, Deb Martin, Cheyo Appel, Ann Segan, Bob Fager, Melissa Maggioncalda, Stephanie Hodges, Shital Rane

**GUESTS :** Tonya Bruder

**ABSENT/EXCUSED:** David Hein, Cheryl Smith, Linda Perlman-McKenna, Melissa Grube, Carol Facchiano, Mark Hanichak, Ismail Kashkoush

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:** Tyler Coulton and Eugenia Kim

**SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:** Roberta Marcus

**ADMINISTRATION:** Richard Sniscak-Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Donohue, Superintendent

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Nicole Mandry at 7:01p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes from January 21, 2010 was made by Lisa Adams, and seconded by Bob Fager.

**PRESENTATION:**

**“Overview of the Food Services Department – Wellness, Nutrition, and Budget”  
presented by Todd Holmes, Director of Food Services**

Mr. Sniscak introduced Mr. Holmes and explained that food services is very much a business within the district. Mr. Holmes must manage a huge budget while meeting nutrition guidelines, planning affordable menus, and monitoring food prices.

Mr. Holmes has embraced PSD’s 2010 theme of “embracing change.” His department has its own mission of providing children in the district with the “ability to make healthy choices.” He explained that each school has its own kitchen which allows for greater control over the quality and the temperature of food. Each school participates in the National School Lunch Program and seven schools also participate in the Breakfast Program. The sale of food within the district equals \$2,289,000.

The district utilizes the CafTRAC debit card system. The use of these cards provides confidentiality for students who participate in “free and reduced” meals. CafTRAC also helps to track each student’s expenses so that parents can gain access to how their student(s) is/are spending money and select parental blocks, if necessary.

PSD follows a traditional food based meal pattern. In order for PSD to receive government reimbursement, students must choose three of five items for lunch and two of three items for breakfast. Students are encouraged, but not forced, to make these selections. Choices for food selection increase with each level of school. So, elementary children have a more limited choice than middle and high school students. None of the traditional food-based menu patterns exceed 30% fat.

Food services budget incorporates sales items, lunch prices, reimbursement, ala carte sales and vending, and catered events. Reimbursement for the National School Lunch Program helps to offset the costs to students keeping lunch prices much lower than they would actually be. Some factors that influence the budget each year are the labor costs, inflated food costs, replacement and maintenance of equipment, paper goods, cleaning chemicals and small wares. Mr. Holmes has been able to take advantage of commodities like cheese and meat, helping to reduce food expenses for PSD. In addition, he has taken a leadership role in forming a consortium with other Pennsylvania districts in order to build buying power, thereby reducing food and equipment costs.

Wellness has played a role in the selections of food offered by PSD. Ala carte items must be less than 225 calories and have less than 35% sugar. Chewy candy and chocolate bars are not allowed to be sold (even for fundraisers). In addition, low fat milk and whole grains have become routine options in school. Mr. Holmes and his staff have done so well with this that Parkland was named a "District of Excellence in Child Nutrition" from the School Nutrition Association in 2004.

**STUDENT REPORT:** S. Tyler Coulton—Class of 2010, Eugenia Kim—Class of 2011

- Parkland Partners Haiti Relief T-Shirt Sale—All proceeds will benefit the Parkland Partners Haiti Relief effort with 100% of the proceeds going to the American Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders. The Parkland Partners is a district-wide committee whose mission is to serve the community with a sense of pride and team spirit among employees, students, family and community members. Parkland partners thanks Emily Harakal, grade 12, for creating the t-shirt design.
- Another fundraiser for Haiti is a TGI Friday's voucher where 10% of the bill is donated to the Parkland Partner Haiti Relief effort.
- PHS Graduation date just announced—Wednesday, June 16, 2010, 7 PM at Stabler Arena in Bethlehem.
- Mr. Parkland Competition is rescheduled Saturday, Feb 20 at 7pm.
- Many juniors and seniors are currently in Costa Rica. They'll be returning on Friday, February 19.
- Political Science—the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parkland Model Congress is currently being prepared for Science Olympiad at Northampton competition on Friday, February 26.
- Mock Trial competition was held on Tuesday, February 16. Results will be available on Friday, February 19 and will indicate whether we move on to the next round.

- Science Fair—the Regional PJAS (PA Junior Academy of Science) competition is scheduled for Saturday, February 27.
- Registration for AP tests is happening this week.
- Region Band competition is scheduled for this weekend. All five students who went to District Band qualified to move on to the state level.
- Region Orchestra starts next Friday, February 26.

**SCHOOL BOARD REPORT: Roberta Marcus**

Governor Rendell's proposed budget for \$29Billion contains a 6.42% (\$5.8B) increase in the basic education subsidy (\$9.8B) and holds most other education programs at level funding or decreased amounts. He also proposed a plan to address the expected spike in employer contributions to the pension system. PSBA recognizes that the governor's budget proposal contains the third year of the six-year plan to provide adequate resources for the state's funding formula for public schools.

The federal government is reviewing NCLB and the ESEA for reauthorization.

At the PSD board meeting on January 26, 2010, we heard the Mid-Year Goals Update which reflected our Strategic Plan 2008-2014. More information is available on our website.

The 2010-2011 school calendar was reviewed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Graduation date for seniors will be Wednesday, June 16 at Stabler Arena.

**ROUNDTABLE:** A plethora of “thanks” were given to Mr. Holmes for his presentation.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** At 8:36 p.m. Nicole Mandry called for a motion to adjourn. Tyler Couton moved, with Ann Segan seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Maggioncalda