

Parkland Community Advisory Council

March 17, 2011

CO-PRESIDENTS

Nicole Mandry
David Hein

VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP

Deb Martin

SECRETARY

Melissa Maggioncalda

ATTENDEES : Lisa Adams, Stephanie Hodges, David Briggs, David Hein, Melissa Maggioncalda, Ann Segan, Lisa Lantier, Nicole Mandry, Linda Perlman-McKenna, Lisa Hayducek, Robert Fager, Deb Martin, Tara Imdorf, Carol Facchiano, Ben Gullledge,

GUESTS : Michelle Wahlmark, Marie Maritch

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Mark Hanichak, Melissa Grube

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Jack Huang 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 David Hein at 7:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes from David Hein was made by David Briggs, and seconded by Lisa Hayducek.

PRESENTATION: Health, Wellness, Athletics and Arts

Mr. Rob Thornburg, Director-Student Services; Mr. Jeffrey Geisel, Athletic Director; Mr. Mark Stutz, Director-Visual and Performing Arts; and Mrs. Donna Steckel, PHS Assistant Principal

Mr. Thornburg gave a brief overview of some of the things PSD is doing to address health and wellness among both students and personnel. The district has developed a "Health Council" to oversee/develop programs which hope to promote health and wellness. As a district, our student population falls right into the national average for BMI (Body Mass Index) for k-6th grade. So programs for nutrition such as "go for the greens (vegetables)" and "five a day the color way" are being utilized at elementary schools. In additions, schools have developed walking paths, a "lift and learn" program at SMS, a Wii Fit program at OMS, and electives in wellness/fitness at PHS. Faculty programs such as Zumba, staff volleyball, spin class, and yoga are also in place.

Mr. Geisel addressed the PSD athletic program. He noted that team schedules for the district are posted on the PSD website and the entrance fee to any home events is \$3 adults/\$2 students. Since the building of the PHS, Parkland sports have made tremendous strides. They have more participants and more district and state championships. He believes this is due to the commitment of the coaches and athletes, the access to better training facilities, and the support of the district to athletics. As a result of PSD's success, Mr Geisel has started an alumni recognition case for PHS graduates who go on to play at a collegiate level.

Mr. Stutz outlined the curricular and non-curricular visual and performing arts programs. Parkland has been committed to developing and maintaining the arts at every school level. Students have

courses in visual arts and music k-12. Beginning in fourth grade, students may begin private and group lessons for an instrument in band or orchestra. In fifth grade, students may participate in chorus and/or Chorale. Band, chorus, and orchestra, as well as general music and other, more select groups, continue through middle and high school. The performing arts are offered at both middle schools and PHS with fall and spring plays/musicals. As a result, PSD has had remarkable success in getting its students state, regional, and even national recognition in the arts.

Mrs. Steckel spoke about some of the extracurricular activities that she oversees. She emphasized the importance of keeping students busy and involved; it helps keep them out of trouble and can set them apart from their peers in the college application process. PHS offers Honor Society for virtually every subject possible. In addition, there are a multitude of clubs offered to students for community volunteer hours, special interest/talents, and even athletics. These would not be possible without the commitment of faculty members who agree to oversee these clubs for very little stipend. Mrs. Steckel also heads up the PHS prom and post-prom affairs which, combined, are about \$75,000 and require enormous amounts dedication and involvement from students and community (parents, businesses, etc).

At 8:40pm David Hein made a motion to extend the meeting. Nicole Mandry moved with Lisa Adams seconding the motion.

STUDENT REPORT: Eugenia Kim—Class of 2011, Jack Huang—Class of 2012

The student representative outlined the various activities currently taking place at Parkland High School.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT: Roberta Marcus

Mrs. Marcus provided the following report:

- Richard Sniscak was approved by the Board as Superintendent of Parkland School District effective, July 1, 2011.
- The Board accepted the retirement of Dale Reitz, director of Student Services.
- The State's population has increased by 3.4% making us the 6th largest in the nation, but because other states are growing at a faster rate, we will lose a US House seat.
- Lehigh County is beginning the process of property reassessments.
- A review of Governor Corbett's budget proposal was provided with the major and devastating cuts in funding and programs for public education. A handout outlining the impact on Parkland School District was distributed.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

ROUNDTABLE: The pot at the end of the rainbow was filled with golden "thanks" for our presenters!

MOTION TO ADJOURN: At 9:08 p.m. David Hein called for a motion to adjourn. Lisa Adam moved, with Carol Facchiano seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Maggioncalda