

Parkland Community Advisory Council

April 14, 2011

CO-PRESIDENTS

Nicole Mandry
David Hein

VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP

Deb Martin

SECRETARY

Melissa Maggioncalda

ATTENDEES : Lisa Adams, David Briggs, Nicole Mandry, Ismail Kashkoush, Melissa Maggioncalda, Melissa Grube, Deb Martin, Ben Gullede, David Hein, Linda Perlman-McKenna, Lisa Lantier, Mary Braccili

GUESTS : Michelle Wahlmark

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Carol Facchiano, Cheryl Smith, Robert Fager

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 Nicole Mandry at 7:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes from March 17, 2011, was made by Deb Martin, and seconded by Ben Gullede.

PRESENTATION: World Language Program, Dual Enrollment, AP, ETAP
Dr. Rodney R. Troutman

Dr. Troutman introduced Ms. Kellie O'Donnell, teacher and incoming chair for the Language Department, for the world language portion of the meeting. Ms. O'Donnell provided an overview of some of the influences on the language curriculum for French, German, and Spanish; ACTFL (American Council of Teachers for Foreign Language) national standards, modes of communication, and language skills. Students may experience five levels of language on either a standard track or an honors track (which ends with AP). Additionally, PHS offers opportunities in Latin, American Sign Language, Chinese, and Arabic (some of these courses require dual enrollment through LCCC). The Language Department further enhances students' experiences with language through language clubs, honor society, and travel opportunities.

Dr. Troutman followed Ms. O'Donnell with brief overviews of ETAP, Advanced Placement Programs, and Dual Enrollment at PHS. ETAP (Elementary Teacher Assistance Program) provides seniors, who are interested in a career in education, the opportunity to spend part of their day working with and assisting elementary school teachers in the classroom. Some 20-30 students participate each semester.

Advanced Placement (AP) courses provide PHS students with an opportunity to learn material from various subjects at a college level and then be tested in hopes of earning college credits for that course. The tests are developed and graded outside of the district. PHS teachers who teach AP must be qualified and are audited annually. Students who take the exam are scored on a 5 point scale. There are about 25 AP courses offered at PHS.

Dual Enrollment at PHS provides students with the opportunity to experience postsecondary coursework while getting credit for college and high school. Some of the courses are taught by Parkland teachers, who become “adjunct” professors for LCCC. Students are charged an additional fee for the LCCC classes since they are obtaining credit for their work. Currently, about 24 courses are offered through this program.

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

- Parkland High School's spring musical, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, filled the stage with vibrant melodies and raucous laughter, a great performance by the talented cast, crew, and pit.
- 28 AP Economics students, advised by Mrs. Alice Stinebaugh, competed in the annual Pennsylvania Economics Challenge at the University of Scranton. The top four teams of four advanced to the state finals.
- At the state finals of the PA Economics Challenge held in Harrisburg, the PHS team (of Dan Stinebaugh, Ben Mays, Joe Lundeen, and Jack Huang) fought their way through spirited jeopardy-style questions to first place. This team will represent the state of Pennsylvania in the national semi-finals to be held later this month.
- Future scientists at Parkland participated in the Delaware Valley Science Fairs, pitting their research projects against those of top students from Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. Parkland students brought home a host of awards, ranging from college scholarships to invited presentations. Hannah Kim and Jack Huang took home top prizes, earning an all-expense paid trip to Los Angeles, CA to compete in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in early May.
- Reading Olympics participated in the Spring Challenge Competition held at Easton Area High School, and this year, Orefield Middle School participated for the first time and won first place!
- National Honor Society is holding a fundraiser event called Kidnap Your Teacher in support of the Japan relief efforts.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT: Roberta Marcus

Governor Corbett’s proposed budget has most educational funding level-funded or decreased or even eliminated. He asked the General Assembly to consider mandate relief for school districts as a way to control costs but his support for a “school choice” program and the need to develop a “system of portable education funding” (vouchers) is the primary focus of his budget. Under the governor’s proposal – funding for Basic Education Subsidy is set back to 2008-09 levels (the last year before federal stimulus dollars were available) which is about \$1 Billion less for public education funding.

PSD administration and school board members met with our community legislators to discuss the impact of the governor’s proposed budget and the need for mandate relief as well as exceptions under Act 1 to help us at the local level.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Nicole reminded everyone that next month the CAC elections will take place. Anyone interested in nominated themselves or someone else for a board position should let her know before the next meeting.

ROUNDTABLE: The presenters where given a “shower” of thanks from meeting attendees.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: At 8:50p.m. Nicole called for a motion to adjourn. Ben Gulledge moved, with Lisa Adams seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Maggioncalda