

SUPERINTENDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

The Superintendent's Advisory Committee is designed to allow faculty at all eight schools to communicate with Dr. Kizner. It is intended to focus more on staff than students. Questions should be shared with principals prior to being submitted to Dr. Kizner.

1. **Budget Information:** The School Board has adopted a budget and now it goes to City Council. They will review and adopt a budget in May.

Budget will increase district-wide:

- a. Costs are going up, ones in which we have no control over
 - i. Transportation cost, MTC, SPED Regional program, and possible more variables will go up
 - ii. Health Care – Health insurance is going up 7.5%. Employees will not notice anything with VRS.
There is a handout with specific estimates – this will be posted on HCPS website soon
- b. 2 positions for the HHS. Math and/or Science.
- c. 1 Social Worker and Mental Health Specialist
- d. 1 position for an Elementary position & teacher assistant for students who need emotional support
- e. 1 STEM teacher to be shared with the middle schools
- f. Keister will have the Welcome Center
- g. School counselor numbers at both middle schools will remain the same
- h. Athletic coaches to aid in the support for sports and teams at HCPS

Budgeting for Elon Rhodes & Bluestone:

- a. Elon Rhodes – addition of a custodian
- b. Bluestone – 83.4 positions for start up/31.5 new positions from the other schools in HCPS
- c. Keister's enrollment for next year is about 330 students - there will be position adjustments

2. **State and Federal Changes**

- a. ESSA has given more flexibility to the states
- b. SOLs will factor into state accreditation but the state will take in **other factors**, due to ESSA
- c. In a year, there will hopefully be less SOL tests and there will be different requirements

3. **Division-wide Initiative**

- a. HHS - a Health Science Pathway may be available as an exploratory for 10-12 graders, with some flexibility for 11th grades - It will lead to career certification. Requires us to have a .5 educator/someone with a science background.
- b. World Language program at HHS - The goal is to expand foreign language offerings. It is about learning the arts and traditions. We will have Arabic & Sign Language.
- c. Great Oak Academy will be housed at THMS
 - Margot Zahner will be the administrator of the alternative program for middle school students, with two teachers
 - The district is looking for a program with a screening program, wrap around support, and so much more.
 - Students could be referred by a teacher or parent.
 - There will be 15-20 students in it.

4. Building Project Update

- a. Bluestone and Elon Rhodes are on schedule.
 - A custodian will be budgeted for.
- b. High School – Harrisonburg is the 2nd fastest growing city in VA. There is a committee that is helping to brainstorm options. We are at 1730, projection in several years: 2100+
 - Option 1: Annex (on or across the street)
 - Option 2: Addition to the current HHS
 - Option 3: New High School

6. Questions, Issues and Around the Horn: *Last day of school is a full day, June 7th*

Let Kelly Lineweaver know if there are great things that are happening at schools

SMES – We had a great community night at Harris Gardens with STEM activities

WES - Literacy Night, with Theatre IV – The Boy That Cried Wolf with 300+ people

SSES - 2nd and 3rd grade concert with the theme of “Where the Wild Things Are” had a great parent turnout

SES – Heritage night, students get to learn how to say “hi” in different languages, celebrating cultures is great

SKMS – 5th graders took a fun D.C. trip/8th graders visited the high school and got a great report from adults

KES – The end of month reading celebration/obstacle course was fun ... Ms. Zook & Mr. Miller got slimed

HHS – A pep rally is scheduled this Friday with community service projects as the highlights - let's celebrating these organizations/projects

Question: Can payroll be changed to bi-monthly?

Answer: It wouldn't be financially costly to Central Office unless another person needs to be hired. Certainly there will be more time spent to do this. Dr. Kizner will talk to Mr. Shaver about this, it is worth revisiting. There will be an answer in May.

Next Meeting: May 3, 2017