

# KSD Advisory Board Notes

August 15, 2017

In attendance:

Clyde Mohan, Anita Dowd, Bryan Bowen, Jennifer Harris, Tina Yance, Chris LeMonds, & Debbie Hayden

- Committee read the minutes and approved
- An email from Dr. Pruitt was read with the announcement of the selection of the new principal.
- Mr. T shared campus updates:
  - New boilers in Thomas and Brady
  - Within the last month, campus has had a loss of electricity 3 times
    - To correct the problem a \$1 million project must take place
  - There have also been fire alarm issues in Grow Hall; it has been updated for security
  - Fosdick and Lee need an updated alarm system
  - Currently in phase III of the Argo project. Previously the front part was completed. However, the back has not been completed and that is where the work is currently happening. When phase III is completed, phase IV will be considered – painting and heating of the back half of Argo.
  - Recently KDE did a request for additional funds from the Legislature in the sum of another \$15 million. All buildings (even newest) on campus are outside of their lifespan; HVAC and other systems
    - Question from the public: when will Middleton be renovated? Middleton has been tested and an air quality test has been done and it is satisfactory. All bad insulation has been removed and dry wall and ceiling tiles have been replaced.
  - Elementary school project:
    - No new decisions have been made over the summer
    - A final floor plan was shared; the dorm was increased in the number of beds that will be in the new dorm
    - A recent report showed that the back part of where the new building is going, may be an area at risk for sink holes. Therefore, more testing has been done to ensure the proper construction of the building.
    - The building will have a card reader security system that requires 15 minute checks at night.

- The building, from the outside, will have earth tones and a familiar look resembling Jacobs Hall. Inside, there plans to be fun bright colors and designs.
    - Two merit employees, Tommy Barnett and Shane Hodge, will serve on the committee to review the energy contract
  - Question from the public: Will the old power plant/boiler be disconnected? Yes, we are almost totally disconnected from the other side of 2<sup>nd</sup> street except for Jacobs.
  - Question from the public: How will you disconnect without hurting Jacobs? Jacobs has/will have its own meter.
- Instruction by Ramona Karsner
  - Several retirements over the summer.
    - Paula Meckes
    - Barb Snapp
    - Dianne Stillwell
  - New staff on board:
    - HS English – Kimmie Curtis; former interpreter
    - HS Science – Brittany Voll; graduate of RIT
    - MS Science – Millie Blandford; science expert, published author of science
    - HS English – Jennie Leith came out of retirement until another qualified applicant is found
    - HR – Amy Hislope
    - Western KY Outreach – Maebeth Harbison
    - KEDC Outreach – posted and open
    - Student teacher – Katlin Buckley; previously with T. Yance as practicum. Now with R. Combs in MS math.
    - Dorm Supervisors – Kelvin Elliott, Todd Batsche & Shane Hodge
    - School Psychologists – Mary Margaret McNemar & Stevy Brewer
    - AWARE Coordinator – Mary Begley
    - PBIS Coordinator – Haylie Weldon
    - Interpreters – Cheyenne Jennings & James Overing
    - Counselor – posted and open
    - Dir. of Tech – posted and open
    - Dir. of Transportation – interviewed and recommended
    - Dorm – still several positions open and posted
    - DoSE/Eval team Assistant – Sarah McCurry
    - Change to ES – Ginger Mitchell is teaching an ASL technology class
  - Students enrolled- 98 with about 7 more with possible meetings
  - AWARE grant

- Teachers, dorm supervisors and interpreters participated in the Capturing Kids Hearts training. Staff are excited to implement the strategies learned about being positive.
  - ASL curriculum continued in the elementary
  - New pathway: Teaching and Learning with a focus on D/HH; 5 students have showed interest so far. The last part of the class is to go into a classroom.
  - Peer tutoring has been offered and several students are working within S. Webb's class
  - Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> #defchefs will compete in the state-wide competition at the culinary state fair; team will continue to participate in the competition until they win it all
  - Culinary team was contacted to participate in a HS cooking competition in L.A. Mandy Byrne brought students in over the summer to interview via Skype as well as sending videos of themselves.
  - Comment/Questions from the public:
    - Advisory Board was thankful for the new hires and their skills in ASL
    - Advisory Board congratulated the culinary team
    - Will there be ASL classes and/or deaf studies classes? Each day ES/MS have a period for ASL studies. In HS, there is a hard time convincing students to take that type of class. They prefer cooking, art....etc. Last year there was a deaf leadership class for HS.
    - Culinary is currently working on also competing in the Deaf Culinary competition
    - Students are extremely excited about the new HS hires
    - Will there be an opportunity for the preschool to become open to CODAs? Explained that LEAs would have to place a student here, like any of our other students.
    - Events need to be shared on social media for people to know what's happening
    - Job postings are on KSD's website under Quick Links; possibility that the browser that's being used could affect how it shows on devices. Recommendation that there is a person in charge of advertising with other campuses and then also attending job fairs.
    - What is the current philosophy on the bi-bi approach? KSD continues to focus on both ASL and written English for all students.
- Communication Policy:
  - Was adopted by the KBE at the beginning of August.
  - Explained that a committee was set up to focus on ASL Proficiency Policy; the focus was on ASLPI/SLPI. Teaching approaches and bilingualism was not yet discussed. Goal of the committee was to have all admin on campus

who could communicate and provide access to all staff/students. The committee will work on procedures that will elaborate on the specific levels.

- Question: What happens to the principal's position, since the communication policy was approved? Explained that first a certification must be looked at and the communication policy.
  - Question: What has happened to the SLPI Coordinator? Explained that the plan is to fill the interpreter position and pull out the SLPI Coordinator to a contract position that would then be open to deaf and hearing candidates.
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- Recommendation: Committee discussed and recommends that a new mission statement should be a recommendation to the new Principal who could then involve other stakeholders.
  - Board stated they'd like to pick a date to meet the new principal.
  - Comment: the board members should try to help the public and community not spread false or negative rumors.
  - KSDAA may put a signed explanation of what's happening on their website. There also needs to be a way to address the concerns.
  - Next meetings:
    - November 14
    - February 20
    - May 8