

## Kentucky School for the Deaf Advisory Board Meeting

### August 11, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Jennifer Harris, Clyde Mohan, Michelle Gadberry, Bryan Bowen, Tina Yance, Sharon White, Debbie Haydon, Mike LaFavers and Anita Dowd

The meeting began at approximately 6:06 pm with a review of the previous minutes. Minutes were approved with changes.

#### **Report by Policy Committee**

Initial conversation/discussion took place regarding who is the governing body of KSD. Mike LaFavers noted that it is difficult to get buy in from the community and school if members are not part of the decision making. Since KSD is governed directly by KY Department of Education, there is no site-based council.

Anita Dowd reported that the group has looked at the policies of other schools for the deaf and that we may be able to draw from their examples. The committee will continue to gather information and report out more next month.

#### **KSD Administration Report**

Will Begley, Principal, reported on the start of the school year at KSD. He noted that student enrollment has increased 10% this year, building renovations are in process, and many new courses are being offered at KSD that students from surrounding counties can attend. Courses include Informatics, Culinary Arts, and Manufacturing. When asked, Mr. Begley reported that the positions were posted and filled. One of the new teachers is able to sign already.

Discussion then ensued regarding the outreach program and what will happen when A. Grassman retires soon. At this time, that was not known. There was additional discussion regarding other positions such as Linda Cannon's role at State Family Service Center that may not be continued due to limited state funds. Mr. Begley noted that the budget is high in salaries and that Mr. Hulett had presented the budget for the current year to the KY Board of education.

Ms. Dowd noted that they did not feel that enough priority has been given to finding deaf candidates for the open teaching positions. Discussion ensued regarding how information is sent out and whether the positions were advertised in multiple ways to attract teachers who are deaf. Ms. Harris asked about policy that was in place previously and no one knew what had happened. Questions were asked regarding who in Human Resources tracks applicants. Mr. Begley noted that for the last four open

positions they had not had any deaf applications. The conversation switched to how to encourage deaf applicants and how to make them want to come to Kentucky.

Mr. Begley concluded by noting that he believes that lots of good things are happening that should make us more attractive to students, families and job applicants. He stated that he will talk to Mr. Hulett about ways to keep the Advisory Board better informed.

Mr. Mohan stated that he will review the notes from this meeting with Mr. Hulett to determine the best agenda for our September meeting. After more discussion (in the meeting and by email later), it was agreed to try to find someone from KDE to help us all know our role in the advisory board.

Next meeting is September 9, 2015 at 6:00

Future Meetings: October 14, November 4<sup>th</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup> (tentative) all at 6:00 in Brady Hall unless notified otherwise.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36. Respectfully submitted by Michelle Gadberry, Secretary