

Report of the Board's Delegate to the Title I District Advisory Council (DAC)

April 20, 2017

Submitted by Director Wendell J. Harris, Sr.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The Executive Committee of the Milwaukee Public Schools' Title I District Advisory Council (DAC) met on March 2, 2017.

- Present Larry McAdoo (Chairperson), Maria Ortiz (Vice Chairperson), Terry Longo (Parliamentarian), Wendy Baker (Sergeant at Arms), Robin Cianciola, Danielle Costello (MPS Family and Community Engagement Specialist)
- Absent Valerie Lambrecht, Carianna Johnson, Carmen Mills (Recording Secretary), Carl Porter (Corresponding Secretary)

MPS Family Engagement Report

Danielle Costello reported that

- a Special Education Family Forum would be held on March 11 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Marshall HS; and
- an MPS Fatherhood Summit would be held on March 25 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at MACL

Reports of Standing Committees

The Family Action & Training Committee, which meets on the last Tuesday of each month in Room 131 at Central Service, reported that it was in need of more members. A discussion was held about ideas for the forums.

Unfinished Business

Student Clubs & Activities

Ashley Adsit, MPS Grant Development Specialist, led a small-group discussion concerning the establishment of a standard for clubs that should be in schools. The small groups focused on the following questions:

- How do you feel about the number of clubs offered?
- How do you feel about the quality?
- What the strengths and areas of improvement for existing clubs?

Group #1 reported:

- elementary schools need more choices;
- high schools would like more quality;
- clubs are addressing only some of the needs of students;
- would like to see who is making decisions — Are students having a say in what is offered?

Group #2 reported:

- need more capacity in groups;
- want more drama, chess, cub scouts.
- communication is a big factor;
- more fine arts are needed;
- college students should be brought in.

Group #3 reported:

- electronics have taken over;
- high schools should have 15-20 options
- participation should be mandatory — substitute five hours of service for participation in clubs;
- lack of transportation is difficult;
- elementary schools should be introducing different options.

Group #4 reported:

- not everyone is aware of what clubs are offered at the schools;
- quality is okay;
- the opportunity should be offered for older students to work with younger students;
- communication — If a school offers students 15 options for clubs, and parents are aware of none of them, it is the same as offering none.

New Business

Parent Teacher Conferences

Danielle Costello posed the following questions for schools:

- What do parent-teacher conferences "look like" at our school? Do we like them, or do we wish that they were different?
- What should parent-teacher conference look like in MPS?
- How do we ensure that all parents have an opportunity to meet with their children's teachers each year?
- What can we, as parents, do to help other parents take advantage of this opportunity to meet with their children's teachers?
- What percentage of the parents come to classes?

Next month we will come back and discuss what the feedback was from the schools.

Positive Notes

- Teshia Wiggins from Sherman School stated that she felt that this (DAC) meeting was very well discussed and that she was excited for next month's meeting.

- Molly Stuetngen from Milwaukee German Immersion School (MGIS) shared that, on Monday, February 27, and Tuesday, February 28,, MGIS celebrated the students' having kept the lunch room clean by making Monday Black, White, Red Dr. Seuss Day and Tuesday Dr. Seuss Crazy Sock Day. It was a delight to see the kids celebrate and also have a clean lunch room.

- Carrie Cruse from the Academy of Accelerated Learning stated that she loved having outside input on school topics.

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