



P.O. Drawer 140, 100 Central Circle
Low Moor, VA 24457

Minority Advisory Committee to the Superintendent Meeting Summary Notes: September 12, 2016

Meeting Summary Notes are intended to serve as the superintendent's reflection on the discussions that occur during advisory committee meetings. They are not intended to be exhaustive. Instead, they are intended to serve as a general record for our on-going efforts to assess our needs, determine our goals, map out our strategies, and evaluate our policies, procedures and programs. Participants should contact the superintendent if they observe any critical oversight or misinterpretation in these notes.

Participants present: Gretel Anderson, Patricia Ross, Stephanie Graham, Alisa Morgan, Carolyn Barnette, Dwayne Ross (AHS principal), Tatiana Bolden (AHS student), Averiana Stewart (AHS student), Hezekiah Alexander (AHS student), Etrulla Moore, Sherman Callahan (SES principal), Jan Hobbs (Dir. of Assessment and Accountability), Mary Jane Mutispaugh (Dir. of Instruction), Lorie Bess (Admin. Asst.), and Eugene Kotulka (Superintendent)

1. Mr. Kotulka explained that the purpose of the minority advisory committee is to focus on minority interests in the school system. He explained the committee's procedures and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. This year's MAC meetings will take place on the following dates: September 12, October 10, February 13, and April 10. All meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. with a light lunch served. If schools are cancelled due to inclement weather then the meeting is cancelled.
3. Mr. Kotulka gave a brief update on each of the following topics:
 - a) Revised comprehensive plan
 - b) Revised capital improvement plan
 - c) New school calendar – to accommodate students finishing their SOLs before holidays
 - d) Bank time

- e) Vision 2020
- f) Early College Scholarship Program - \$1,000 cost to parents. ACPS pays for books.
- g) One-to-One Initiative
- h) New Tech department – not fully developed yet
- i) Turning Point program (former Alternative Education program)
- j) Wrap around services – geared towards elementary students but will be used for any student, if needed
- k) Connecting with Early Childhood programs
- l) Expanded Governor’s school program
- m) Enrollment of Boys Home students – will be included in ACPS enrollment because they live in our county
- n) Career and tech pathways
- o) Salary increases – will be asking the Board to approve 1%, retroactive to July 1, at the Sept. 19 board meeting
- p) Technology upgrade
- q) CMS Bell system – still in progress
- r) AHS Fire Alarm system - completed

4. New Business

- a) Reading initiative
- b) Responsive Classroom initiative – sometimes referred to as “teaching good manners”
- c) Integration of technology into the classroom
- d) MVES new traffic pattern – changed to increase safety of students, not because of moving the Early Childhood program to MVES. This plan was in place before the move. The traffic plan was recommended by VDOT engineers.
- e) Exit 21 interchange – work should begin in the spring. Not exactly sure how we will be affected at this point.

5. Mr. Kotulka asked for any suggestions to improve the education of our students. The following suggestions were given:

- a) Reading – let students choose what they read, give them more variety, meet their interest level
- b) Comprehension techniques – students need help comprehending what they read and study
- c) Minority teachers – role models for students
- d) Improve school culture

- e) Discipline report – provide support to minority students (Mr. Kotulka will provide a report at the next meeting outlining support provided to all students). Students report they receive unnecessary discipline tickets.
- f) Minority interview committee. Have a minority on the interview panel to help reduce culture shock, perhaps take the candidate to dinner to show them around the area. (Anyone interested in serving on this committee can contact the superintendent.)

The meeting ended at 12:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is at 11:30 a.m. October 10 in the School Board meeting room at the Central office complex in Low Moor. A light lunch will be served.

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