

**Paxon School for Advanced Studies
School Advisory Council
January 12, 2010 Minutes
Media Center**

Present: Shelly Casey, Alison Cruess, Africia Davis, Kenneth Devoe, Angel Gates, Rhonda Grant, Kevin Johns, Kimberly Price, Steven Smith, Mary Sulfridge, Royce Turner, Vincent Viscariello, Willie Walker, Anne Ward, and Donna Whittaker.

Absent: LaShanda Allen, Robin Dickenson, Kimberly Dull, Patricia Kendrick, Connie Rawson, Vic Sciullo, Russ Snyder, and Janis Wood.

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm by SAC President Kevin Johns. He introduced a new member, Mary Sulfridge.

The November 10, 2009 minutes were presented. Ms. Africia Davis made a motion to approve the minutes and Vincent Viscariello seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

Principal's Update:

Royce Turner reported:

- Principals received an e-mail from the district announcing a change in the appropriations for use by the SAC. Schools will be given \$2.85 per FTE. The money came from leftover funds from the District's Discretionary Lottery Funds. Mr. Turner was told the money would be available January 7. This money is an addition to the \$7,329 we in rollover SAC funds.
- Paxon has lost their football coach. They are putting together a search committee. We wish he could have stayed with us. Someone from SAC will be in the search committee along with a faculty member and member of the athletic department.
- Paxon Middle School will become the new James Weldon Johnson in 2011/2012 school year. They will put everything in trucks in bring it over to the middle school. Paxon Middle has capacity for 900 students, while JWJ currently has a much higher enrollment.
- There has been a rumor going around about magnet transportation that Mr. Turner wishes to dispel. Magnet transportation will not change for dedicated magnet schools. The rumor was if an IB program started in a neighborhood school, a student in that neighborhood going to Paxon SAS would not be given transportation, which is not true.
- Facility: Mr. Turner put in a work order to have benches installed in the court yard area.

Financial Update

Mr. Steven Smith said he had not received any new SAC funding requests.

We have spent \$2, 450 on the Life Smart Competition (\$250) and graphing calculators & AP calculus workbooks (\$2,200).

This leaves us with approximately \$8,860.75 (depending on number of FTE used for calculation for additional funding received in January)

Our current pending requests are 1) IB Pinning & Diploma Ceremonies and Grad Party (\$2,200) and 2) College Planning Guides (\$500).

Mr. Johns asked if we want to entertain the purchasing of the IB Pinning & Diploma Ceremony and Graduation Party and the College Planning Guides. Mr. Turner explained the IB Pinning Ceremony took place in November.

For this reason, we can subtract \$600 from the request, making it now \$1,600 (\$400 for the IB Diploma Ceremony and \$1,200 for Graduation/Senior Party).

The Planning Guides have been placed on hold. PTSA is looking into putting the guide online and printing a few to have on hand at the school.

Ms. Anne Ward said she had a hard time spending money for a party or ceremony and would rather see the funding spent on instruction.

Mr. Turner suggested we have Ms. deBeche come back to the committee and explain why it is so crucial that SAC cover these costs.

There was discussion about spending the money and not carrying it over until next year. Mr. Smith, Mr. Johns, and Mr. Turner indicated this was the best approach.

Ms. Alison Cruess reminded the committee of the appointment of Mr. Walker as chair to a financial sub committee tasked with developing priorities for SAC expenditures. She asked if we should allow our new subcommittee time to review the requests and determine our priorities for SAC spending.

Mr. Willie Walker said we have not received additional requests and does not want to make any decisions until we have more requests.

Mr. Smith explained that we know the top level guidelines for spending SAC money such as sit cannot be capital, etc. and we have to determine the second level guidelines.

New Business:

Mr. Turner introduced Mr. Kenneth Devoe, the ROTC instructor.

Mr. Johns explained the Mid-year Stakeholder Assessment. This was sent by email to the committee.

There are five areas:

- **Needs Assessment** - *Summarize the student academic achievement needs and the relationship to the school improvement plan.*

- **School Improvement Plan** – *What will be done to address the identified academic achievement needs?*
- **Community and Family Engagement and Involvement** – *What are the examples of community engagement and involvement that the stakeholders are aware? What are examples of parent engagement and involvement?*
- **Evaluation of Results** – *How has the committee evaluated the effectiveness of the actions taken? What process has been used, who has been involved, and what specific criteria or indicators of success have been used to evaluate the effectiveness of the action?*
- **Next Steps** – *Where do we go from here?*

Mr. Turner distributed the Mid-year Report to help the committee complete the Mid-year Stakeholder's Assessment. He explained that we are required to conduct bench marking and have completed two of them. The report shows slight growth in every category and reflects the professional development completed by teachers. He said the report will help with our first two questions on the Assessment and suggested the PTSA could speak to two questions concerning community.

Mr. Johns read through the responses he received for the assessment and took suggestions from the committee for additional answers. He said he would take all inputs, roll them together and send to SAC.

Mr. Turner said he wants to expand our Business Partnerships. Recently, Paxon SAS received donations from CiCi's Pizza and Mimi's Café. Mr. Turner explained he places the information in a newsletter and lists the Business Partners on a bulletin board in Paxon's hallway.

Old Business

Mr. Johns said he needs to get the email address of the SGA representative so it can be included in the monthly meeting reminders.

The next meeting will be held at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 in the Media Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.