

T.Clay Wood Elementary
Advisory Council Minutes

April 19, 2012 • The Library • 7:05 p.m. - 8:35 p.m.

I. Welcome by Chairperson

Karen Martin, the chairperson, welcomed members.

Members Present	Linda Ashpole • Laura Barrett • Andrew Buchheit • Stephanie Griffin • Richard Hansford • Katey Humrighouse • Melanie Kynard • Karen Martin • Bill Muirhead • Stacie Mulholland • Elizabeth Paiz • Cindy Probus • Gela Russell • Ryan Sanfilippo • Melissa Yuditsky
Members Not Present	Mary Beth Crowder-Meier • Kelly Davis • Amy Gibson • Brian Howard • David Johnstone • Maureen Ochs • Meeta Patel

II. Review/Approval of February 2012 Minutes

February 2012 Minutes were approved. *March 2012 Minutes* could not be approved as this meeting was canceled.

III. Citizen's Time

No community citizens spoke during the open forum time.

IV. Superintendent Advisory Council Report

Melanie Kynard reported on both the March and April 2012 Superintendent Advisory Council Meetings. The notes for each are listed below:

- **March 2012 Summary:**
 - The discussion at this meeting centered on the technology tools that are currently available in the county to include Edulink (now Parent Portal) and Schoolfusion. Both of these tools aim to engage parents into the educational process and to ensure accountability and data access. The concern was raised that the sites are not updated on a regular basis by teachers and that there is the want for a specific number of times for both to be updated. In addition, the question was raised about whether the leadership team members could see how often the systems were being updated. It was clear that the county was still working on getting a tool for principals to see all of the information.
- **April 2012 Summary:**
 - **Signet:** At the middle and high school levels the gifted and talented program has varied levels of participation because at many schools students are pulled out to attend gifted sessions. Students, who feel penalized, leave the program so they can focus on their other academic subjects. The discussion at the county level is centering on how to make this program work better at the secondary level.

- **Balanced & Fair Technology:** There has been a great level of concern about how some schools in the county have an abundance of access to the latest technological advances and some do not. The county is working to “right” all schools to ensure the same level of technology access.
- **User-Friendly Site:** The group is working on finding a way to make information more accessible on the PWCS website. Currently if someone is new to the area it can be difficult to find out pertinent information. They are looking at streamlining the processes and believe that there should be an update at the May 2012 meeting.

V. PTO Liaison Report

PTO Liaison Laura Barrett briefly discussed the current PTO calendar and the latest events. A few of the highlights were:

- **Wellness Fair:** To be held on April 28th as a free community outreach effort.
- **REACH:** \$20,000 was raised in this effort. Next year they are looking at taking on more of the ownership of the project so that the school can keep more of the funds.
- **Square 1 Art:** Completed tiles will be going up on May 1, 2012.
- **PTO Survey:** The PTO has sent out a survey to ask about this year’s projects and to gauge interest in the events to support for next year.
- **PTO Meeting:** All are welcome to the next meeting on May 14, 2012.

VI. Principal’s Time

Andrew Buchheit, the principal, led a discussion about the *T. Clay Wood Elementary School Advisory Council Bylaws*. The group looked at all sections of the bylaws and made updates that Mr. Buchheit then used to create a final version. Changes included minor conventions such as capitalization and punctuation. Roles were re-evaluated and restated so that the chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary were clear on the expectations. Moreover, at this time it was announced that Katey Humrighouse would be leaving the council and the group voted to have Ryan Sanfilippo fill the role of vice-chairperson. After the review of the bylaws the following topics were briefly discussed:

- Two more 4th grade teachers were hired for next year. There is the need to now hire an LD teacher since Ms. Humrighouse is leaving. Two temporary teaching assistants are still funded for next year even though the school budget for next year has decreased by \$32,000.
- The new official 2012-2013 budget will come out in October 2012 once student headcount has been confirmed.
- There will be a revised exploratory arts rotation schedule that will allow for the instructional technology resource teachers (ITRT) to collaborate with classroom teachers.
- Parents and students will receive their teacher assignments in August.
- The student transfer process has been closed.

VII. Advisory Council Representative Time

Bill Muirhead brought to the attention of the group the upcoming public hearing at Patriot High School on April 25th regarding the widening of 28 at Vint Hill. There continues to be concerns regarding the school zone areas at Kettle Run and Schaeffer Lane.

VIII. Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting date is: Thursday, May 24, 2012

VIII. Website Communication

The following meeting summary can be posted to the TCWES website:

On Thursday, April 19, 2012 the TCWES Advisory Council met to discuss topics pertaining to the enrichment of our community of learners. Presentations were made summarizing the March and April 2012 Superintendent's Advisory Council meetings in which the county's technology resources and world-class instructional programs were discussed. In addition, members reviewed the council's bylaws in an effort to uphold the integrity outlined at the start of the school year. The organization reviewed the outstanding programs currently supported by the PTO to include REACH and Square1 Art. Also, the group was in full support of a recent PTO Survey that aimed to gauge community feedback on current and future projects. Lastly, the organization looked at the upcoming 2012-2013 budget and noted that although budget constraints would be challenging, student engagement and enrichment would remain at the forefront.

X. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

TCWES School Mission: A Community of Leaders and Learners Achieving Excellence