Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to notice made by posting on the Board's public notices webpage and emailed to persons on the mailing list, a meeting of the **Parent Advisory Committee: Distribution of Donations for Staffing** was held virtually and streamed live at: https://www.youtube.com/@PPSPACDistributionofDonations/live

The materials for this meeting were posted on the Committee's Webpage https://www.pps.net/Page/22782.

Attendance

Committee Members
Present:
Ayla Ercin
Audrey Gnich
Daniel Levine
David Lamadrid
Suzanne Clare
Alisa Welch
Sachin Wheatley, Student
Annika Houghton, Student
Trina Huff

Other Attendees
Robyn Faraone, Director of Strategic Partnerships, PPS
Deborah Kafoury, Chief of Staff, PPS

Topic 1 - Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Co-Chair Sachin Wheatley.

Topic 2 - Adopt Meeting Minutes from 3/12/25
Sachin Whetley motioned to approve meeting minutes. Ayla Ercin seconded. All in favor (9), none opposed (0).

Topic 3 - Staff Update, Robyn Faraone, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Deborah Kafoury, Chief of Staff
There was discussion of decision-making criteria, PAC purpose, charter and clarifications of the roles of the PAC versus staff. Several proposals were reviewed, including: potential distribution formula by school, Learning Acceleration programs and principal feedback, and Educational Assistants.

Topic 4 - Committee Discussion
Committee members discussed which programs they were most interested in funding. Here's a summary of the statements by Committee members:
Suzanne Clark- Support 5th grade tutoring (Ignite), Support food pantries, and support $100K-200K for seed money/fundraising. Support establishing a goal of fundraising for EA's in future.

Sachin Wheatley- Supports 5th grade (Ignite), IXL for 9th/10th grades, Food pantries, Seed money/fundraising.
Ayla Ercin- Supports Kindergarten EAs, maybe 5th grade tutoring (Ignite). Prefer educational focus, rather than food pantries.
David LaMadrid- Concerns that this process was biased with only a few options presented and a short timeline for decision-making. He would support Community Schools, food pantries and fundraising.
Daniel Levine- Staffing is top priority. EA's, even if it is a small number. Also supports Community Schools concept, but would want it to add staff.
Alisa Welch- Since she learned that they will lose 4 teachers at MLC, she is more focused on adding staff to school buildings. She does not think donors will support technology/app, but 5th grade tutoring (Ignite) is a possibility. Support High Impact Tutors and EAs in school buildings.
Annika Houghton- Supports EA's, 5th grade tutoring (Ignite) and IXL for 9th and 10th grade if it's done in the classroom rather than homework.
Audrey Gnich- Support High impact tutoring expanded in schools, one-on-one tutoring options and increasing counseling hours.
Trina Huff- Support IXL for 9th and 10th graders, adding EA's or splitting the funding among schools.

Topic 5 - Vote on Proposals
Chair Trina Huff help a vote to see how many supported each component. This voting was just a hand raise for each component separately. Three of the committee representatives did not raise their hand for any of the components in this initial voting round. Food Pantries: 1, 5th Grade Tutoring (Ignite): 3, seed funding for future fundraising: 3, IXL for 9th & 10th grades: 3, EA's: 4, Split between schools: 2, Counselors: 2, High Impact Tutors: 4.

Staff will find out how many High Impact Tutors could be added with the funding, and will put together a google survey with options for the committee to vote on by end of day, Monday, March 24, 2025. We will continue the discussion and voting at a PAC meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 but given that it is spring break some representatives may be traveling and unavailable to attend.

Adjourn

Chair Trina Huff adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Submitted by:

_____
Robyn Faraone
Director at Strategic Partnerships