

# **Liberal Arts and Science Academy**

## **Campus Advisory Council**

### **5 October 2016 Meeting—Minutes**

Committee Members in Attendance: Parent Co-Chair Ann Phipps, Faculty Co-Chair Amy Moore, Acting Secretary Quinn Simpson, Karen Aalvrd, Will Andrews, Meagan Butler, Mary Crisler, Jason Flowers, Tracie Gardner, Ana Irizarry, Sondra Marks, Ranier Mueller, Caitlin Palmer, Ken Pfluger, Principal Stacia Crescenzi (ex officio)

Guests: Sam Buford, Nirali Devgan, Alys Porter, Lori Wallace, Nikki Zern

#### **I. Welcome, Call to Order**

#### **II. Training – Member Roles and Responsibilities**

In advance of the officer election, Ann Phipps distributed and briefly reviewed a document outlining the roles and responsibilities of CAC members.

#### **III. Officer Election**

Amy Moore and Ann Phipps were reelected by acclamation to their respective roles as Faculty and Parent Co-Chairs. Mark Grayson was reelected by acclamation to his role as Secretary.

#### **IV. Citizen Communications**

<none>

#### **V. Approval of Minutes**

April 2016 minutes– Approval deferred because several required changes were unable to be made in the absence of Secretary Mark Grayson.

May 2016 minutes– Approved unanimously.

September 2016 minutes– Approved unanimously pending several required changes: Sarah Harrelson and Elaine Martinez were in attendance as members, not guests. Linda Hardy was in attendance as a guest, not a member. Karen Carlander was in attendance as a member. Nikki Zern was not in attendance. AISD Associate Superintendent of High Schools Craig Shapiro was in attendance as a guest. There was not sufficient information included about Mr. Shapiro’s purpose in attending the meeting and addressing the committee. Background information should be added to provide needed context.

## **VI. FABPAC Update**

Deferred due to the absence of both Mark Grayson and Tali Wildman, who were scheduled to speak about the committee's work.

Ann Phipps made mention of several upcoming opportunities for LASA community members to impact the facilities planning process– most immediately, a meeting will be held on October 11th at 5:15 pm in the library where the consultants hired by AISD will review the results of the facilities assessment for LBJ and LASA. Additionally, AISD is hosting a series of community meetings to brainstorm what the “school of the future” should look like and how it can be implemented in AISD. More information can be found on the AISD website. Phipps emphasized that council members should encourage LASA community members to participate in these meetings.

## **VII. Campus Improvement Plan**

Deferred to the November meeting because the improvement goals Principal Crescenzi submitted for LASA fell outside AISD's parameters and require revision before the plan can be accepted.

## **VIII. CIP Professional Development**

Deferred to the November meeting for the same reason as the previous item.

## **IX. Northeast Austin Planning Committee**

Quinn Simpson, who served on the AISD Northeast Austin Planning Committee, explained that the final plan generated from the committee's work will soon be shared with principals in the impacted region and members to offer additional input. He also said that Superintendent Cruz will be hosting a Northeast Austin CAC meeting for CAC members to voice their input for the plan. The meeting was erroneously scheduled for Election Day and is currently in process of being rescheduled. Simpson encouraged members to attend this meeting and said that he would share out whatever additional information he received about the process.

Ann Phipps noted that AISD Trustee Julie Cowan has recently encouraged LASA community members to make their voices heard on a district level. She distributed and briefly reviewed a working document summarizing the CAC's positions on a variety of issues related to LASA's growth and the role of magnet schools in AISD. She encouraged council members to read and contribute to the document online so it can be finalized and used to provide a common set of talking points.

## **X. LBJ and LASA Together**

Quinn Simpson said that the first meeting of the student committee convened by AISD Associate Superintendent of High Schools Craig Shapiro to address issues facing LBJ and LASA in sharing facilities will be held on Friday, October 7th. Principal Crescenzi said that the five student members from LASA are seniors Quinn Simpson, Oscar Newman, Elizabeth Rivera, Emily Yi, and Mariah Mackey. She does not know the names of the five student members from LBJ.

## **XI. Principal's Report**

Information about the October 11th AISD visioning meeting will be emailed to LASA parents. It's very important that advocates of advanced academics attend meetings like this because the topic is often sidelined.

The recent clown threats are being addressed more on an AISD level than a campus level. AISD is working with the FBI to investigate social media threats. Reasonable vigilance should be exercised by everyone on campus—an awareness of things that may be out of place without succumbing to irrational fears. LASA administration will remind students don't cover their faces or bring weapons to school on Halloween.

The AISD policy on magnet schools accepting out of district students has changed for the 2017-18 school year despite very recent assurances to magnet principals that the policy would not change. Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, applicants who are approved to attend Fulmore, Kealing, LASA, McCallum and Lamar must show proof of residence in AISD within 45 days of the application due date. This means that applicants must move into district boundaries before they apply and before they know whether they will actually be able to attend an AISD magnet. If a student moves out of AISD, he or she will be allowed to finish the semester in their magnet program. They are welcome to continue attending an AISD school if they transfer in. The policy was written with haste, and the language fails to address a wide range of practical questions and concerns. Primary among these, LASA does not have the funding or manpower to rigorously verify the address of every single applicant on such short notice. Questions are left unanswered about how to go about this and what to do about transfer students. Additionally, different campuses may implement the policy differently which would lead to a whole host of issues. CAC members are strongly encouraged to call AISD Trustees and administrators to ask about these pressing policy concerns.

## **XII. Next Meeting**

Wednesday, November 9th in Mr. Flowers' room (274).