Shawnee Heights U.S.D. #450  
District Advisory Council  
Minutes of Meeting  

March 19, 2019

Those present were:

Dr. Martin Stessman        Tamara Edington        Alisha Delgado
Rebecca Greer              Bryce Leidtke          Rebecca Gray
Rocky Busenitz             Brenda Holladay        Kristy Hanshaw
Reene Olson                Jennifer Forshee-Weichert   Jeannie Gish

1. Call to Order  
The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Forshee-Weichert.

2. Adoption of the Agenda  
Tamara Edington moved to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Alisha Delgado, motion carried 11-0.

3. Approve Minutes of February 11, 2019, Meeting  
Tamara Edington moved to approve the Minutes of the February 11, 2019, District Advisory Council Meeting as presented. Seconded by Brenda Holladay, motion carried 11-0.

4. Communications and Announcements  
None.

5. Site Council and PTO Reports  
Brenda Holladay – Berryton Elementary Site Council and PTO  
At their most recent Berryton Site Council meeting, members discussed how to best transition the new principal and ideas to help her become acclimated. Summer programs were also discussed. Kona Ice fundraiser will be May 8th. Kindergarten Roundup is scheduled for April 22nd. There will be interviews for a new first grade teacher and a PE teacher.

Bryce Leidtke – High School STUCO  
The STUCO district yearly meeting was held in DeSoto and discussion was held regarding increasing student involvement. STUCO also distributed a student survey for ideas on how to increase student participation. One idea was collecting points for events attended. A new idea has been developed to have a “Mr. Thunderbird Beauty Pageant” for the male students. High School plans to implement new ideas for Halloween for next year which include students wearing costumes, decorating rooms and have a haunted house in the commons. STUCO officers plan to have students become familiar with the school song as it’s been discovered that some do not know it. There will be an annual volleyball/dodge ball tournament being started. Students would like to work with administrators to have the TV’s in the commons area working so announcements and information can be posted. Some senior students will be attending freshman orientation and coordinating efforts to help those coming to the high school. Nicole Bloomquest, Annie Harris, Bryce Liedtke, Jonathan Lozano and Mackenzie Waggoner placed first in the Washburn Leadership Challenge.

Reenie Olson – High School Booster Club  
Tamara Edington – High School Site Council and Booster Club  
There is leftover spirit wear available. The High School PTO will be changing banks. The student-led spring parent/teacher conference reported higher attendance than fall conferences. The Site Council, with the help of Kansas Vision for Education literature broke out into groups and discussed tiered education, expected behavior, and extra-curricular activities.
5. **Site Council and PTO Reports (cont.)**

- **Rebecca Gray – Tecumseh North PTO**
  No report.

- **Kristy Hanshaw – Tecumseh North Site Council**
  At their last meeting, the Tecumseh North Site Council discussed internet safety, district field trips and which ones are a “must go,” and reviewed titles for the spring “One School One Book” initiative. Tecumseh North also hosted the Board of Education meeting on March 18th.

- **Jennifer Forshee-Weichert – Shawnee Heights Elementary PTO**
  Attendance was 95% during spring parent/teacher conference. This was a 1% increase from fall conferences. SHES PTO and building leadership are developing ideas for the front signage. March 7th was the annual Pettit Scholarship & Pancake Feed. SHES will host the Board of Education meeting on April 15th. April 11th will be the first school bingo night with a Disney theme. SHES PTO raised $2,000 for their recent catalog fundraiser. Kindergarten Roundup will be April 22nd. PTO elections will be April 3-10 and members are working on updating the bylaws.

- **Alisha Delgado – Shawnee Heights Elementary Site Council**
  The SHES Site Council are working on building goals and teaching students how to set their own goals.

6. **Rocky Busenitz – Board of Education**

At their March 18th Board of Education meeting, the Board received the Tecumseh North Site Council report, approved a turf steering committee for the football field, approved a new school psychologist position for the High School, and an update from the Middle School and High School regarding drug testing and how to fund it.

7. **Dr. Martin Stessman - Superintendent**

Kyrstin Bervert will be the new Berryton Elementary Principal. At the present time, Central Office Administrators are reviewing applications for the Tecumseh North Principal position. The KESA on-site visit will be Friday, March 22nd and Shawnee Heights will highlight their efforts of parent involvement and student engagement. Boys and Girls Club will only be at Tecumseh North this summer. Camp Invention will be held at all elementary sites. There will be summer tutoring district wide as recommended by teachers. Elementary students will receive books in the mail this summer as has been done in the past and the Board of Education approved summer drivers’ education.

8. **Becky Greer – Curriculum Director**

- **Professional Development**
  Mrs. Greer showed members of the District Advisory Council the map outlining professional development for the 2018-2019 school year. She explained the different training available to teachers as well as New Teacher Academy for first year teachers throughout the year, also training for teachers in their second year of teaching, suicide prevention training, building-based professional development as well as a “flex day” which gives various topics of discussion and teachers can pick what they think is most beneficial. A teacher is the largest factor in student achievement, so it is the philosophy of Shawnee Heights that all teachers receive proper training and even extra training for those first year teachers.

  a) **Appoint Board Members to Negotiations Team**
  Lauren Tice Miller moved to appoint Renae Hansen and Erica Price as members of the Negotiations Team with Rosa Cavazos serving as alternate. Seconded by Rocky Busenitz, motion carried 7-0.

  Mrs. Greer showed DAC members the portal to the IStation and thought it was very under-utilized. Shawnee Heights is “data-driven,” and she uses this tool to monitor if the curriculum is working. It is used as a tool and a resource for teachers and administrators and she demonstrated how to navigate the site.
9. **Open Forum (Members – Questions, Comments, Concerns)**

*What is the update on the auditorium leak?*

Dr. Stessman explained that a firm the district hired which is out of the Kansas City area, only investigates water intrusion. It was discovered that the workmanship in the auditorium was not up to industry standards. The mortar applied with the bricks was of sufficient quality, however it was applied incorrectly. The contractor is in default, however, the company has declared bankruptcy. This means we are now working with the bonding company and the architects and the attorney the district utilizes are discussing further plans of action.

Rebecca Gray reported that the Boys and Girls Club at Tecumseh North had to undergo staffing changes because students did not like participating. The student and staff relationships were not good, but she reports it’s now going in the right direction. Alisha Delgado reported that it was a “logistics nightmare” in dropping off and picking up students as well as trying to find a parking space. She believes there needs to be better organization and better communication. Mrs. Gray also stated that when parents come to pick up their students, B&G staff do not recognize parents and just send students off with whoever picks them up. Dr. Stessman and Mrs. Greer will follow up with these two concerns.

Alisha Delgado asked about Parent Engagement at the High School and asked that communication be better with teachers.

*How does the new league Shawnee Heights is in compare to the league they were in previously?*

Dr. Stessman said the students received 6 titles this year, which is a great number. There is a lot of traveling in this league and gate revenues have decreased, but there are two other county schools who would like to join this league but at the present time, there are other factors involved. Shawnee Heights wanted to play schools more their size.

*What are the plans for 8th grade promotion?*

Dr. Stessman said to visit with Mr. Urich. This event has grown beyond what it should be and is too big to have it in the Middle School gym. There is no room for parking and cars park everywhere for this event which creates a hazard.

*A senior recently received an e-gaming scholarship?*

Dr. Stessman said the district does not have an official e-gaming club.

10. **Adjournment**

Tamara Edington moved the meeting adjourn. Seconded by Rebecca Gray, motion carried 11-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

*The FINAL meeting for the District Advisory Council will be Monday, April 8, 2019.*