

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

**January 16, 2017**

Those present were:

Dr. Martin Stessman  
Rebecca Greer  
Reenie Olson  
Rosa Cavazos

Michael Mayfield  
Tamara Edington  
Julie Liedtke  
Jennifer Wilcox

Kristy Hanshaw  
Kim Pentico  
Joel Manzanares  
Jeannie Gish

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Michael Mayfield.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

Tamara Edington moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Jennifer Wilcox, motion carried 11-0.

**3. Approve Minutes of November 14, 2016**

Jennifer Wilcox moved to approve the minutes of November 14, 2016. Seconded by Tamara Edington, motion carried 11-0.

**4. Communications and Announcements**

None.

**5. Site Council and PTO Reports**

Rosa Cavazos – High School Site Council

Ed West, Principal, attended the High School Site Council meeting and presented a PowerPoint presentation which discussed the High School's vision, direction, ACT scores, enrollment, advancement classes, suspensions, and other topics relative to the High School building.

Rosa Cavazos – Shawnee Heights Elementary PTO

The SHES Spelling Bee was January 13<sup>th</sup>.

D.A.R.E. Graduation is January 20<sup>th</sup>.

SHES is participating in the Box Tops fundraiser.

The SHES Talent Show is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Rosa asked other members of DAC how their PTO filed their taxes.

Kristy Hanshaw – Tecumseh North Site Council

At their November meeting, Site Council members discussed the Communities That Care survey, the Random Drug Testing Policy being considered, and making some changes to their student packets.

Tecumseh North students sold 760 Major Saver cards, which was decreased by 24 from last year.

Tecumseh North Site Council members discussed moving some fundraising activities, such as the Stuffed Animal drive, to December so not to interfere with the Major Saver card sales.

Reenie Olson – Shawnee Heights High School Booster Club

The annual basketball tournament, which is a Post Prom fundraiser, will be held January 28<sup>th</sup>.

The High School Talent Show will be January 27 & 28.

Spirit Night is February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Tamara Edington – Shawnee Heights Middle School

The Pancake Feed to raise funds for Cross Country as well as the Boys Basketball Tournament, will be held January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Julie Liedtke – Berryton Elementary PTO

Berryton's annual Taco Feed and Silent Auction is Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Site Council/PTO Reports (cont.)**

Jennifer Wilcox – Shawnee Heights Elementary Site Council

No report.

Kim Pentico – Tecumseh South Elementary PTO

No report.

**6. Joel Manzanares – Board of Education Report**

The December 5<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting was held at the new Support Services Building. The Boys and Girls Club presented an update on the program with Shawnee Heights.

The Board of Education has not made a final decision on the Random Drug Testing policy as it's still in the discussion phase.

At their January 9<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, members of the high school faculty presented information regarding the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Program whose mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.

Tecumseh North Elementary was the first school in the county to receive an anonymous donation from someone who paid all lunch balances from the first semester.

**7. Dr. Martin Stessman – Superintendent's Report**

• **Calendar**

Dr. Stessman distributed Draft C of the 2017-2018 School Calendar and asked for feedback. He asked for input from the DAC members regarding Thanksgiving break. Should parent/teacher conferences be pushed back a day to allow the entire week of Thanksgiving off? DAC members agreed that Thanksgiving break, as is, is long enough.

• **Political Update**

Dr. Stessman outlined the governor's budget proposal. For the current fiscal year, the state is negative \$350 million, even though taxes have increased. Under the governor's budget plan, revenue has grown .4% per year and the state is essentially borrowing against money in the future. The governor's plan has not been well received by the legislature who are now giving some thought to a 2%-4% cut in K-12 current year budgets. Legislators want to find a permanent fix to this crisis. They are seeking a way to pass a tax bill that will structurally repair the budget and combine it with a rescission bill. The concern, however, is timing the tax/rescission bills with a school finance bill so they can start rebuilding school funding from a new base. A 2% cut in general state aid for USD 450 is \$345,000. A 4% cut is \$690,000. Dr. Stessman emphasized that expenditures will be restricted to necessary items only.

• **Capital Outlay**

Dr. Stessman reviewed Capital Outlay items presented to the Board of Education at their last meeting. Items will include a more recognizable front entrance at Tecumseh North Elementary, update the Middle School entrance, a new entrance for the training room at the High School, and technology purchases and furniture. The ADA compliance construction at the football stadium is expected to be complete by March 1.

**8. Becky Greer – Curriculum Director**

• **Follow-Up on Communities That Care Surveys**

Based on employees, teachers, counselors, and DAC feedback relative to the family section of the Communities That Care Survey, the Board of Education approved the inclusion of the family section in the questionnaire for future surveys. Mrs. Greer will bring back the survey results to DAC in the fall.

• **Fine Arts Curriculum Review**

The cycle of curriculum review is now on Fine Arts. The State of Kansas does not have standards for Fine Arts, so USD 450 aligns with national standards. Anyone wishing to review standards can go to the Kansas State Department of Education website (KSDE.org), and review the link of "recommended standards." Before purchasing any materials for the course, it first must have Board approval.

**9. Open Forum (Members – Questions, Comments, Concerns)**

Relative to previous discussion regarding parents funding, Kim Pentico asked if there was a place anywhere on the website or a line item in school building funds that parents could contribute to a “pool” for those families that couldn’t afford extra-curricular activities. Tamara Edington also asked if this could be put under the Shawnee Heights Public Schools Foundation umbrella so those contributing could remain anonymous. Dr. Stessman will review with the Foundation Board of Directors to receive their input as this could also be construed as a tax deductible donation if parents contributed under the Foundation umbrella.

Michael Mayfield asked if during enrollment, places to volunteer could be listed so students could pay for their activities by volunteering. Dr. Stessman said it is not done during enrollment, but it is centralized under the district’s Activities Director.

Rosa Cavazos asked about the tax filing of PTO’s for more discussion. Michael Mayfield will ask a tax specialist about PTO’s and Booster Club’s filing with the IRS.

**10. Adjournment**

Tamara Edington moved the meeting adjourn. Seconded by Rosa Cavazos, motion carried 11-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

*The next meeting for the District Advisory Council will be Monday, February 13, 2017.  
There is no December meeting.*