



## **Board of Education Committee Meeting Proviso Township High School District 209**

Board Member(s): Mr. Rodney Alexander

District: Dr. Nia Abdullah, Mr. Dan Johnson, Dr. Jeremy Burnham, Dr. Brian Colbert, Mr. Calvin Davis, Ms. Delinda Hyde, Dr. Eva Kardaras, Ms. Cynthia Moreno, Mr. Lavertis Robinson, Ms. Vanessa Schmitt

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The Board of Education **Parent and Community Engagement Committee Meeting** of the Proviso Township High Schools held Wednesday, January 17, 2018, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Faculty Cafeteria at the Proviso Mathematics and Science Academy.

### AGENDA

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm.

#### **2. Introductions/Acknowledgements**

Meeting participants were introduced.

#### **3. Parent Coordinators share**

The parent coordinators shared their newsletters.

#### **4. Purpose and Goal of Committee (see handout)**

Mr. Alexander reviewed the purpose and goal of the committee.

#### **5. New “Mandatory meeting” policy presentation- discussion on effectiveness and possible amending/changes.**

Mr. Alexander described the process for getting Policy 8:95 approved. The policy, as approved, was reviewed for the committee, and Mr. Alexander told the committee that part of the discussion for the meeting was whether there were additional changes and/or additions needed for the policy. There was general discussion regarding whether to hold a mandatory annual meeting for parents where there is a loss-of-privileges for students in the case of parent non-participation. Several members talked about the benefit of providing grade-specific information to parents each year. There was also discussion of the benefits of incentives vs. loss-of-privileges. Mr. Alexander indicated that he was generally not in favor of incentivizing parent participation.

Mr. Mike Burries discussed his recommendation regarding a mandatory annual meeting for all parents. He discussed the e-score concept and the role of parents in working

toward improvement of the e-score. Mr. Burries and Mr. Alexander encouraged committee members to consider that requiring a mandatory meeting was something that hasn't been tried, yet, at Proviso East and Proviso West.

Mr. Alexander asked for a vote from the committee on whether to proceed with the policy as currently approved, or to recommend that the policy be adjusted to require an annual mandatory meeting for all parents. Mr. Dan Johnson suggested an alternative where the committee proceeds with planning for implementation of the currently approved policy and taking some time to develop the policy for a mandatory annual meeting for all parents. A committee participant asked what the group thought the difference might be between the parents of students at PMSA versus Proviso East and Proviso West, and some discussion followed related to that question. There was discussion regarding the relative merits of proceeding with the current policy versus seeking a policy change. A suggestion was made related to the idea of parent orientation meetings. The suggestion was that if all parents were to be expected to attend an annual meeting that it take the form of a required parent orientation meeting, with tailored to each grade level.

Mr. Alexander said that he would ask legal about drafting language which would require the schools to develop and implement annual parent orientation meetings by grade level, and also require parents to attend that meeting in order for the student to be eligible for participation in extra-curricular activities.

#### **6. Subcommittee organization and operating procedures (See handout)**

- A. Parent Engagement – Chair – Rodney Alexander
- B. Government Engagement – Chair – Lorenzo Webber
- C. Faith based/not for profits Engagement – Chair – Mike Burries
- D. Business Engagement – Chair – Brandi Booker
- E. Foundation Schools Engagement – Chair – Catina Burries

Information was shared for each sub-committee, and chair persons for each sub-committee were identified. (see the list of sub-committees, above)

A request was made to find out from each District 209 principal what parent engagement activities are already occurring regarding students who are not meeting standards.

#### **7. February meeting date, time and location**

This was not addressed.

#### **8. Closing remarks, concerns and clarifications**

Ms. Jacque Foster and her daughter described some of the difficulties they had experienced, especially in getting support for the student. They described how having received more information and better support would have helped the student get back on track, sooner.

#### **9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

