

EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION MINUTES

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Educational Commission was held on May 7, 2019.

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME:

Chairman Pro Tem Veazey called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cheryl Rutherford, Doris Langon, Don Ransford, Delores Woods, Tonya Davis

GUESTS:

Rochelle Medcalf

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Medcalf mentioned that her 15 year old attends Rich Central and walks to school because they reside inside the “walking” perimeter (1.5 miles from campus). Their home is 1.4 miles away. She wanted to bring this to the attention of the commission in hope that the perimeter distance is made shorter. She also reported that there a lot of fights and bullying at the school. She also reported that students are oftentimes not allowed to go to the restroom when they request a pass to do so. She reported that the overall environment has made her daughter unmotivated about going to school. Discussion was held on these issues, especially identifying programs within and outside the school that her daughter might have interest in to improve her motivation. It was also suggested that Ms. Metcalf write a letter or email to the principal on the issues that concern her to ensure they get proper attention and to document her efforts should she have to get the district office involved.

AGENDA ITEM: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES APRIL 9, 2019

The minutes from the April 9, 2019 meeting were approved without changes or correction.

AGENDA ITEM: SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM

This agenda item was covered during the April 9th meeting and should not have been on this agenda. During the April meeting the commission agreed that holding school board candidate forums was an effort the commission should undertake in the future, though in a slightly different manner (cost, production level) than we had in the past.

AGENDA ITEM: SUPERINTENDENT MEETING PLANNING

Discussion was held regarding our upcoming Special Meeting of the commission where both Superintendent’s Davis and Thomas will provide the commission with updates on their district’s activities, progress, etc.. We will also share with them the results of our commission’s “refocus”, which will emphasize fostering better communication between the district’s and our community as well as identifying (and eventually developing) programs that will assist students who reside in Olympia Fields in the academic and career pursuits.

The manner in which the Special Meeting would be structured was discussed in detail, especially the twelve pre-prepared questions the commission developed and forwarded to the superintendents to ensure certain important topics would be covered, and to provide the superintendent’s advance knowledge of our interest in the topics. All logistical issues were discussed to better ensure success. The meeting agenda will be prepared and forwarded to commissioners for review before forwarding to the superintendents. Lengthy discussion was held regarding potential next steps, follow ups and opportunities for collaboration after the Special Meeting were also discussed.

AGENDA ITEM: WEBSITE PLANNING

There was no report on this subject. As mentioned in the past, this effort will be part of an overall restructuring of the Village’s website.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.