

# **ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

5:30-7:30 PM at W.T. Woodson High School

## **Minutes**

**October 18, 2017**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Joe Alston (Mason, Sandy Evans)  
Jane Cruz (Braddock, Megan McLaughlin)  
Bryan Graham (Providence, Dalia Palchik)  
Lois Passman (Mt. Vernon, Karen Corbett Sanders)  
Irvin Varkonyi (at-large, Ryan McElveen)  
Helen "Dolly" Whelan (Dranesville, Jane Strauss)

### **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER PRESENT:**

Ilryong Moon, At Large

### **STAFF:**

MaryAnn Cunningham Florez, ACE Manager  
Sheryl Granzow, ACE Administrator  
Brad Rickel, Adult High School Completion Administrator  
Linda Seyer, Regional Program Manager  
Karin Williams, OSPC Director

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Edythe Kelleher (Hunter Mills)  
John Lim (at-large, Ilryong Moon)

### **MEMBERS NOT YET APPOINTED FOR 2017-2018:**

At Large (Karen Keys-Gamarra)  
Lee (Tammy Derenak Kaufax)  
Springfield (Elizabeth Schultz)  
Sully (Thomas Wilson) Patricia Franck (Waiting for re-confirmation)

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Moon, School Board Member, ACEAC members, and ACE staff introduced themselves to the new committee member, Joe Alston. Carole Sullivan was introduced to the committee as the staff member who will eventually be taking meeting minutes instead of Amanda Redman.

Amanda Redman, OSPC Staff Assistant, gave an overview on the new ACEAC Google Drive. Ms. Redman displayed the site and demonstrated how the committee can access the site's agendas, minutes and annual fiscal year report.

### **ADULT HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION (AHSC) PROGRAM**

Brad Rickel, AHSC Administrator, gave an overview of AHSC which ensures FCPS students have opportunities to control the time, place, path, and pace of their learning. The next groups intended to receive laptops are students in NEDP and GED classes which will give students access to APEX tutorials. Many of the students learn computer skills and go on to ACE apprenticeship programs.

Mr. Rickel gave a brief PowerPoint presentation about the AHSC program, updating the committee on AHSC progress. Mr. Rickel then gave a tour of some classrooms to ACEAC members who were most complimentary of the program and of the students they met.

**Comments from Mr. Moon.** A serendipitous and fortuitous highpoint of the visits was to a classroom of English Language Learners. Mr. Rickel asked the students if anyone had questions. One young man asked what type of future would be possible for students who are trying to learn English. Mr. Moon, the ACEAC School Board member liaison, related his personal story. He and his family had arrived in the US from Korea when Mr. Moon was 14 years old. At that time, he did not speak English. He learned English, he has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard and a law degree from the College of William and Mary, and has a successful law practice. And he has been an at-large Fairfax County School Board member for 14 years and has been its Chairman three times. The American dream is possible! Ms. Passman concluded the committee visit by telling the class that we expected to see one or two of the classmates as a FCPS School Board member in the years ahead.

## TOPICS OF INTEREST AND CONCERN

- a. **Nominating Committee for ACEAC Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.** Lois Passman, Mt. Vernon, was nominated to serve as the ACEAC Chair. Dolly Whelan, Dranesville, was nominated to serve as Vice Chair. No members volunteered or nominated anyone to act as secretary. Karin Williams, OSPC Director, reported that a secretary is not required by the ACEAC bylaws. This action item for a secretary was tabled for the time being. Jane Cruz, Braddock, moved that the two nominations for Chair and Vice Chair be approved. Joe Alston seconded the motion. The motion passed at 6:46 p.m.
- b. **Education for Independence (EFI) Funding for FY 18.** Sheryl Granzow, ACE Administrator, reported EFI funding is still not achieved. Maureen Simmons, ACE staff, will have to step back a bit from fundraising in order to devote time to writing grants. Meeting attendees were encouraged to think of ways to find the \$85,000 funds.
- c. **Feedback from ACE Staff.** Ms. Williams was asked to provide a copy of the staff responses for the FY 2017 Report that was presented to the School Board. Ms. Williams informed the committee that once the staff response is posted to Boarddocs, she will be able to share the link with the committee.
- d. **Accelerated Workforce Education (AWE).** Ms. Granzow distributed a flier and displayed the webpage for this new pilot program on the whiteboard. Karin Williams was instrumental in the launch of this program. The purpose of AWE is to locate students ages 17-24 who have graduated from high school but do not go on to post-secondary education. (Seven percent of FCPS students per year do not go on to post-secondary education.) AWE aims to give them career ideas or help them learn a skill in areas including business, IT, and or apprenticeship programs. Data were gleaned from the annual senior survey to find students who don't know what to do after they graduate. Also, information about AWE was included in the FCPS "News You Choose" email, with particular emphasis to target school counselors. There has been a tremendous response to the "News You Choose" email, particularly from parents who have children who are at home and need some help with plans for the future.

AWE was approached by The SkillSource Group, a nonprofit entity of the Northern Virginia Workforce Development Board, which has been trying to reach this population of students. SkillSource has federal funding to help students who need financial resources for their AWE tuition. Ms. Granzow said AWE's Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program is a great option for college students; they can earn income as an EMT which helps pay for college, and, they are exposed to opportunities in the medical field.

Maureen Simmons has been managing the AWE program. Two students are enrolled now, and information is being disseminated to many students looking into AWE. Programs run for as few as three months, and can be as long as a year or more for an apprenticeship.

- e. **Workforce Development Board Volunteer.** The Workforce Development Board holds quarterly meetings in the Tysons area. Chair Passman asked for a volunteer to attend the meetings and

act as a liaison. The next meeting will be held December 7, 2017. Bryan Graham volunteered for this position.

- f. **ACE Fund Decline in Revenue.** Ms. Granzow reported that while there has been an overall decline in enrollment, there has been an increase in apprenticeship programs and some enrichment programs such as lifelong learning and surveying. The economy seems to be improving, and the hope is that enrollments will increase. Chair Passman asked Ms. Granzow if Joey Teets (Manager, ACE Readiness and Apprenticeship) could provide accurate enrollment numbers, and he submitted the following information:

“This year the fall Apprenticeship Program registrations totaled 629 students, the highest fall enrollment since September 2009. Notable among these enrollments is the Surveying 1 class that has 20 enrollees this year, the highest since Sept 2007. Many see the surveyors as an early indicator of the state of construction since they are needed to lay out construction sites before any work is done.”

- g. **National External Diploma Program (NEDP).** Chair Passman asked Mr. Rickel to share any knowledge of the potential for the NEDP to be cut. Mr. Rickel said his department has been asked by Dr. Francisco Duran, the FCPS Chief Academic and Equity Officer, not to take any new clients. Dr. Duran also asked for enrollment and budget information. Chair Passman would like to have detailed information about the cost/benefit ratio and the population being served by these programs. Karin Williams, OSPC Director, said the information Mr. Rickel can provide is the information shared with Dr. Duran. Ms. Williams mentioned that a new committee has been developed to look at Adult Education Programs in order to examine the most efficient cost effective ways to deliver services. Mr. Varkonyi, at-large, recognized the need to prioritize all programs, and noted this one might not be cost effective.
- h. **Adult ESOL: Enrollments. Immigration Issues Impact.** Sheryl Granzow, ACE Administrator, shared information about the Adult ESOL program on behalf of MaryAnn Cunningham-Florez, Adult ESOL Manager. Current enrollments are good. Classes are filled to capacity without overcrowding.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Minutes were taken by Carole Sullivan, OSPC Staff, and Amanda Redman, OSPC Staff Assistant.

The Minutes were reviewed by the Writing Team who provided additional content.

**ACEAC Next Meeting: November 15, 2017, 5:30-7:30PM. Woodson HS, Entrance 13, RoomL-F-123.**