

## **Illinois School for the Deaf Advisory Council**

### **Meeting Summary**

December 2, 2021 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Meeting held via Zoom

**Members Present:** Karla Giese, Julee Nist, Deloris Summers, Jamal Garner, Carrie Tucker, Pam Walker

**Members Absent:** Jamie Butler, Taylor Ozee, Louis Hamer

**Others Present:** Michelle Brown, Laci Kennedy, Jill Bruington, Jesse Hayes, John Miller, Angie Kuhn, Allison Fraas, Christine Good-Deal

#### **Welcome, Roll Call and Introduction of Visitors:**

- Karla opened the meeting at 9:07am
- Roll call and introductions were completed
- Karla asked the council if an ISD student could give his presentation first which wasn't on the agenda until after the discussion of new business. The council agreed.

#### **ISD Student Presentation:**

- An ISD TLP student presented a power point on the Building Trades Day Field Trip. He stated that a group of ISD high school students attended a field trip at the BOS Expo Center in Springfield where they made toolboxes and experienced hands-on demonstrations in welding, painting, carpentry, etc. The power point included pictures of the students participating in the events. The student also shared some of the high school classes that he is currently enrolled in. Carrie asked what advice he would give to future ISD graduates. He stated that he would like to encourage students to choose a career doing something they love. Karla thanked the student for his presentation.

**Reading and Approval of September 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes:** Deloris made a motion to approve the September 2, 2021 minutes. Jamal seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting minutes from September 2, 2021 were approved.

#### **New Business:**

##### **COVID 19 Updates**

- Julee announced that she sent her report to council members prior to the meeting. She stated that 76% of ISD staff and 67% of students ages 16 and above received the COVID vaccination. Julee will get the number of students ages 5-11 who are vaccinated from Health Services Director, Kari Pratt. Julee stated that ISD staff and students continue to wear masks, practice social distancing and inform parents via email when there is a positive case on campus. Julee reported that ISD has been without a positive COVID case for 6 weeks and estimated that there had been 10 positive cases during the 2021-22 school year. Carrie asked if COVID vaccinations are offered to younger students on campus. Julee explained that a parent must be present to administer the vaccine and there are currently no plans to offer another COVID vaccine clinic on campus. Karla asked what type of COVID testing is administered at ISD. Julee stated that ISD uses the rapid tests. Julee also explained that unvaccinated staff are required to test weekly, vaccinated staff and students may voluntarily test and tests can also be administered to any staff or student with symptoms.

## **Tiger Branding Update**

- Julee mentioned that her report contains a QRL that the council can screen shot and it will provide a link to vote on the ISD tiger branding. Julee agreed to let voting stay open until the council completed their votes. Karla encouraged the council to vote after the meeting. Julee explained that a tiger branding committee had been established and the committee received 7 tiger submissions. The committee chose 3 of the 7 tigers to vote for. The school voted in September, ISD alumni voted on November 13, and advisory council is the final group to vote. Julee stated that she would like to invite the winning artist to ISD. Karla suggested inviting the winning artist to the May 2022 in person council meeting. Jamal mentioned that he will not be in attendance during the next meeting.

## **Other Department Reports**

- John Miller explained that he and Jodi Miller participate in weekly JoJo ASL storytelling and that the ISD students have been very involved during the activities. John also announced that they have been collecting donated books to give to ISD students around Christmas. Deloris suggested using Amazon wish list and having the books sent directly to ISD.
- John Miller reported that 7 ISD students attended World Languages Day hosted by SIU and that he was asked to be a presenter this year. John stated that his presentation included the history of ASL. John also stated that many different languages were involved and that there were 500 students in attendance. John explained that students separated into groups during the event and that ISD students shared their life experiences growing up as a deaf person. The students also taught the ASL club some basic sign language. The students attended a luncheon hosted by SIU where the students had the opportunity to socialize with other students. Pam mentioned that she worked at ISU and was involved in planning World Languages Day during the past two years and this year was one of the best. Karla stated that the event is a great way to promote ASL and ISD. John thanked Julee and the ISD principals for allowing the students to participate in the event.
- Angie Kuhn shared a video of the Jr/Sr high school Maker Space Club setting off their rockets on October 20. A group of 32 students made bottles into rockets and had the opportunity to test the rockets outside.

## **Council Recruitment Update**

- Karla reminded the council members about the parent recruitment statement that was recommended during the meeting in September. Karla stated that she had a general statement to share and asked the council if they should vote. Karla reported that the council can have a minimum of 9 advisory council members consisting of 3 ISD parents, 3 individuals with a disability and 3 deaf experts. Karla reported that there is a parent position and a person with a disability position available. Karla stated that she would like to contact Jamie to see if she is still interested in being a member because she has not attended a meeting. Karla reminded the council that members must attend 3 of 4 meetings per year to continue as an active member. Karla shared the parent recruitment statement with members. Carrie suggested adding that 3 of the meetings are via zoom to the statement. Karla stated that she will add that 3 meetings will be via zoom and the May meeting will be in person at ISD. Deloris asked if the meetings will continue the meetings using zoom or eventually go back to in person. Karla stated that the council can discuss this topic each year but should continue

zoom so that distance isn't an issue when recruiting new members. Karla reminded members that an advisory council email had been sent out to parents last Fall with no new applicants. Deloris mentioned that JCCD could also send out the statement. Carrie suggested sending the parent recruitment statement home with students. Julee suggested adding the statement to ISD letterhead and sending home with the students. Julee suggested creating another letter for JCCD to send out. Deloris stated that there was no need to vote on the recruitment statement if everyone agreed with statement and added suggestions. The council agreed. Karla will work with Julee regarding the recruitment statement letters. Karla encouraged council members to reach out to colleges, friends and parents to recruit new members. Deloris stated that she will reach out to the ISD Alumni Association.

### **PTSO Updates**

- Karla reported that she spoke with Deb Gossrow regarding recent donations from the PTSO. The PTSO donated \$250 to ISD for a greenhouse. Michelle Brown and Lori Niemann have been teaching ISD students about plants. Karla asked Michelle to update the council members about the club.
- Michelle stated that Jr/Sr high school students have been participating in a plant club recently established during the 2021-2022 school year. Michelle reported that attendance ranges from 2 to 13 students and that they received several donations of house plants to show basic plant care and health benefits to the students.
- Karla stated that the PTSO also donated \$250 to purchase footwear for ISD athletes. Karla announced that the ISD spirit wear link will be available soon and she will share the link with council members.

**Old Business:** No discussion.

### **Reports:**

#### **ISD Superintendent's Report (Julee Nist)**

- Julee stated that her report had been completed during the discussion of new business and that she had nothing more to add.

### **Discussion:**

- Deloris asked for the latest information regarding ISD homecoming. Julee reported that homecoming will take place during the high school boys' basketball season and that Wisconsin agreed to attend if travel is possible at that time. Julee stated that she had been in contact with Deloris regarding ISD athletics and homecoming.

### **Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

- Karla announced that the council will continue with the COVID updates and student presentations. Karla suggested that the members share advisory council information on social media to recruit new members and encouraged members to contact her or Julee with any questions or concerns.

**Public Comment:** No discussion.

**Adjourn:**

- Jamal made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deloris seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 10:27am.

**Meeting Dates:**

**Thursday, March 10, 2022 (Zoom)**

**Friday, May 13, 2022 (In person)**