

Illinois School for the Deaf Advisory Council

Meeting Summary

August 23, 2019 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

ISD Main Building

First Floor Conference Room

Members Present:

Karla Giese, Deb Gossrow, Sheri Cook, Glenn Eyer, Quinetta Grant, Taylor Ozee, Susan Dramin-Weiss, Julee Nist, Charlene Hicks, and Kerrie Rawlings.

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Alisha Armenta, Michelle Brown, Marion Dramin, Karen Garrett, Christine Good-Deal, Jesse Hayes, Angie Kuhn, Angela Leavell, Deloris Summers, Kathryn Surbeck, and Joe Vieira.

Welcome, Roll Call and Introduction of Visitors:

- Sheri opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.
- Roll call and introductions were completed.

Review and Approval of May 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

- Susan moved to approve the meeting minutes and Charlene seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the May 3, 2019 meeting minutes were approved.

New Business:

Welcome new Members: Glenn Eyer and Taylor Ozee

- o Sheri welcomed Glenn and Taylor to the council and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

Election of new Members (person with a disability and a parent member)

- o Sheri explained the positions on the council and announced that there are currently two vacancies. She explained that the vacancies included a parent of an ISD student and a person with a disability.
- o Susan reported that Carrie Tucker declined her appointment to the council. She explained that there are currently no applicants for the position of a parent of an ISD student. Sheri asked council members to encourage anyone they know, who might be interested in serving on the council, to apply.
- o Susan reported that there are six applicants for a person with a disability. She read the applications, and after a brief discussion the council voted to accept Jodi Miller's application.

Orientation and instructions regarding the responsibilities as Advisory Council members

- o Sheri presented a power point explaining the roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Council and explained where to find information on the ISD website. She also explained the attendance expectations, term limits and officer positions. She reminded the members of the meeting dates set for this school year.

- Sheri gave a brief overview of the by-laws and asked the new members to read over them. She explained that the new members would need to complete trainings covering OMA, Ethics, and Sexual Harassment Prevention. Sheri also explained what it means to have a quorum when holding votes during a meeting.

Nominations and Election of Officers (Chairperson, Vice-chairperson and Secretary)

- Sheri asked for nominations of new officers. She reminded Karla that she was nominated as chairperson at the last meeting and Karla declined the nomination.
- Deb was nominated as chairperson and she accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for chairperson and Deb's nomination was accepted by the council.
- Susan was nominated as vice-chairperson and she accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for vice-chairperson and the council accepted Susan's nomination.
- Taylor was nominated as secretary and she accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for secretary and Taylor's nomination was accepted by the council.

Reports:

ISD Superintendent's Report (Julee Nist)

- Julee provided the council members with folders containing her reports. She announced that ISD has 21 new students with 7 more admissions meetings scheduled.
- Julee explained that several improvements were made over the summer. She listed some of the improvements: new chairs in the Main Building conference room, bullet proof doors at the High School, many upgrades at the Power Plant, and new bedding at the Health Center. She thanked DHS for allocating the money that helped to make the repairs and improvements to the campus.
- Julee thanked the alumni for inviting her to the 180th ISD Birthday Celebration that was held in July.
- Julee discussed the new emergency response procedure and the active shooter training that all staff have attended.
- Julee addressed the proposed ISD Mission and Vision Statements. She started by presenting two proposed Mission Statements and then asked the council members to vote on the one they preferred. She then presented the two proposed Vision Statements and asked the council members to vote on the statement they preferred. Julee explained that a representative from CEASD would visit ISD to look at the accreditation again.
- Jesse gave a brief report about his recent trip to the National Student Life Conference.

The Institute for Parents of Preschool Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (Angie Kuhn)

- Angie announced that this was the 75th year for the Institute for Parents of Preschool Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. She reported that 34 families attended the Institute and that there were more than 30 children in the sibling program.

August Conference at ISD (Joe Vieira)

- Joe reported that ISD hosted a conference for interpreters and educators, and that 88 people were in attendance. He explained that there were a variety of presenters and that Angie Kuhn was the keynote speaker.

DHS/DRS Director

- Quinetta announced that Rahnee Patrick is the new director for DRS and that she plans to visit ISD next month. Quinetta introduced Kerrie Rawlings to the council and announced that Kerrie recently filled the Educational Liaison position that has been vacant since the retirement of

Marjorie Olsen. Kerrie talked about the Governor having a new initiative to support the WiFi at state facilities. She didn't know the timeline for this to happen, but she thought it would be a positive improvement for the school.

Other Department Reports

- Kathryn mentioned that ISD provides speech and language services during the summer for ISD students. She reported that 21 students attended speech/language sessions this past summer. She also reported that parents are welcome to come and sit in on the sessions and that they are also offered opportunities to attend ASL classes while they are here.
- Susan asked about the Athletic Director position. Julee explained that Raquel Humphrey has been temporarily assigned to that position.

Student Presentation(s): moved up on agenda.

- Two ISD students reported on the camps they attended this past summer. Shaylin Poore reported that she attended the Explore Your Future (EYF) camp at RIT and that she learned about the courses of study they offer there. Kayla Ciganek-Harris reported that she attended Youth Leadership Camp (YLC). She explained that this is a month-long camp and that she had a good experience there. She reported that she attended classes and workshops about deafness, networking, and building leadership skills.

Stakeholder's Reports:

- Deb reported that she chose to have the memorial funds for her husband go to two entities, one being the ISD PTSO. She announced that \$1500 was donated to the PTSO in memory of her husband. Deb explained how the PTSO money is spent and announced that new spirit wear and order forms will be coming out in September. She explained that the order forms will be emailed, and Christine suggested putting the order form on the ISD website.
- Susan reported on the ISD 180th Birthday Celebration that was sponsored by the Alumni Association.
- Susan announced that the Alumni Association would help sponsor the ISD 5K that will be held on October 12, 2019.

Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- Discuss how to support student involvement and improve the relationship between the schools and student life.
- Update council members' email addresses and take a group picture.

Public Comment:

- Deb thanked Sheri for her service to the council as the chairperson.

Adjourn:

- Glenn made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.