

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

### **Meeting Summary**

December 6, 2019 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

ISD Main Building First Floor Conference Room

#### **Members Present:**

Karla Giese, Deb Gossrow, Jodi Miller, Sheri Cook, Susan Dramin-Weiss, Taylor Ozee, Glenn Eyer, Carrie Tucker, Quinetta Grant, Julee Nist, Kerrie Rawlings and Olivia Scott.

#### **Members Absent:**

#### **Others Present:**

Kathryn Surbeck, Angela Leavell, Karen Garrett, Jesse Hayes, Angie Kuhn, Jill Bruington, Christine Good-Deal, Deloris Summers, Marion Dramin, Laura Braucht, Nick Schell.

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

- Deb opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.
- Roll call and introductions were completed.
- A motion was made to move the student presentations to the top of the agenda. The motion passed.

#### **Student Presentation(s):**

- **CTE:**
  - o TLP students gave a presentation on the Building Trades Career Day field trip they recently attended.
- **High School:**
  - o Alyssa Hilman gave a presentation on the Chat 'N Chew Book Club that was started this year. She explained that the club is for high school students and reported that some teachers have also joined the club.
- **PK-8:**
  - o PK-8 students gave a presentation about the Character Counts Curriculum in Connection with Nestle Student of the Week and Student of the Month Program. The students explained they are learning the importance of character traits such as attentiveness, respect and compassion.

#### **Review and Approval of August 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes:**

- Sheri made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction to the spelling of Marion Dramin's name. Charlene seconded the motion. The August 23, 2019 meeting minutes were approved with the spelling correction.

#### **New Business:**

- **Nomination & Election of Advisory Council Parent Representative Position**
  - o Deb explained that there was one application for the vacant parent position on the council. Susan read the application. Sheri made a motion to accept the applicant and Taylor seconded the

motion. The motion passed, and Carrie Tucker was accepted as a new member of the Advisory Council.

- Susan asked about Taylor keeping track of the service terms of each council member. She stated that she would like to meet with Sheri, Gwenn and Julee to look over documentation and get an accurate list of members and their terms and then hand it over to Taylor to manage. Taylor accepted the requested assignment.

- **Group Photo**

- The council took a short break for a group photo.

- **ISD Student Involvement Opportunities for the Community**

- There was discussion about JCCD partnering with the deaf community and encouraging ISD students, especially the TLP students, to attend meetings and events. Julee explained that the problem is that most of the meetings are held on weekends when the students are not here. She reported that JCCD has been asked about moving some of the meetings to Thursdays.
- Julee reported that Jr. NAD was restarted at ISD this year. She said that she would follow up on the progress of the program and provide a report at the next meeting.
- Sheri reported that there is a deaf senior citizens group in Springfield that her parents are involved in. She suggested that the students attend social gathering there and socialize with the seniors. She also suggested that some of the senior citizens might enjoy coming to ISD for activities such as art, reading and sewing.

- **OMA and Ethics Trainings**

- Deb asked the council members if they all received the email from Ed and reminded them that the trainings are due today. Many of the members had their training completion certificates and handed them in. Deb explained that the Ethics and Sexual Harassment trainings are annual trainings and that the OMA training is a one-time training. Jodi stated that her email was listed wrong and that she was not receiving the emails. Deb said that she would ask Ed to fix Jodi's email address and to also add Carrie's email address to the list.

- **Connections Between Student Life and the Schools**

- Jesse explained the communication process between the schools and dorms. He explained that each night the dorm staff complete a summary that is shared with the schools, social workers and nurses. He further explained that the school secretaries receive reports on all incidents that have happened with a student. Jesse stated that each dorm parent is assigned a student and they are responsible for the parent contacts for that student as well as attending the students IEP meetings. He reported that there is a school-wide activity calendar that is accessible for viewing by all staff and this helps prevent conflicts when scheduling activities.

**Reports:**

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

- Julee reported that ISD has received full accreditation from CEASD and that the new vision and mission statements are posted throughout the campus. Julee also reported that a new all-school picture was taken and that framed copies of the picture have been hung around campus. Julee announced that the ISD Facebook page is up and it has been going well. Julee explained that the Homecoming football game was cancelled this year, but that the football players were still honored as well as the alumni players from 50 years ago. Julee also announced that next year

ISD will not have a football team due to a lack of players. Sheri stated that this seems to be happening at other schools as well and reported that Missouri may also not have a football team next year. She stated that Ohio does not have a football team, but they have started a soccer program. Julee explained that ISD is looking into alternative activities for the students to participate in.

- Jill explained that the TLP students are not eligible to participate in high school sports, but they are encouraged to participate in activities that other adults would join. She reported that some of the TLP students are involved in YMCA memberships, soccer and wiffle ball at Fitness World, and sand volleyball at K's Creek. Jill explained that activities and clubs are available for all high school and TLP students to join.
- Julee announced that the Battle of the Books would take place next week.

- **DHS/DRS Director's Report**

- Quinetta reported that she joined the DHS Secretary's personal secretary in a tour of ISD on November 22. She thanked Julee, Jesse and Carolyn for providing an enjoyable tour of the campus. Quinetta reported that the DRS Director and DHS Secretary are very much in support of ISD and are happy to see the ISD Facebook page is up and running.

- **Student Body Government (SBG) Representative**

- Olivia reported that the SBG has been working with the teachers on making changes to the dress code. She also reported that they have partnered with the Recreation Department in adding more activities during the school day, specifically during lunch and homeroom. Olivia explained that SBG has also addressed the issue of having a positive attitude and pointed out that SBG is a good way for students to express their concerns.

- **Other Department Reports**

- Sheri reported that she has returned to teaching Deaf Studies at John A. Logan College. She announced that her club's service project for this semester will be to donate toys, books, etc. for the token stores at ISD. She explained that their future service project will be to provide a new 70-inch television for the ISD Teen Center.
- Susan announced that the ISDAA donated items for ISD's 5K. She felt that there was a communication breakdown because they did not receive an acknowledgement of their donation. They also didn't realize that they could have bought t-shirts and would have liked to do so since their name was listed on the back. Julee explained that this was only the second year for the 5K and they are still learning how everything works.

**Stakeholder's Reports:**

- **Community School Student Mentor to DHH Students (Susan Dramin-Weiss)**

- Susan shared her experience with being a deaf student mentor. She expressed that deaf mentorship would be a good experience for ISD students.
- Karla suggested ISD start a mentoring program similar to Big Brother/Big Sister. She thought the high school students could mentor elementary students in the community.

**Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

- Present enrollment for the past 3 years – Julee
- Follow up with discussion of ISD students interacting with senior citizens

**Public Comment:**

- There were no public comments.

**Adjourn:**

- Susan made a motion to adjourn and Karla seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 am.