



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

5:00 PM

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.
30 W. Mifflin St.
10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Gloria Reyes; Shiva Bidar-Sielaff; Matthew J. Phair; Nichelle Nichols; James Howard and Carousel Andrea S. Bayrd

Absent: 1 - Anna Moffit

Staff Present: Tariq Saqqaf, Mary O'Donnell

Phair called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bidar-Sielaff, seconded by Bayrd to approve February 8, 2017 minutes. Motion passed by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. [46378](#) Madison Metropolitan School District/Municipal Court Truancy Report

Attachments: [2015-16 Truancy Report.pdf](#)

Judge Daniel Koval and Leia Esser the Director of Student Physical, Mental and Behavioral Health at MMSD were present to discuss the annual Truancy Report. MMSD provides assistance for students with attendance issues along with a truancy court at the high schools. Goals include improved student attendance and engagement within the schools. School staff and families are involved as partners in the process. Students who are habitually truant despite interventions may receive further tickets. They may also lose work permits, learner's permits or driver's licenses. Students coping with drug abuse, emotional or behavioral issues will be referred to appropriate agencies for a more specialized support. Mentoring programs are great and make a difference in school attendance for many students involved in the truancy court. Social media can further cause conflicts with students or specific

individuals. More funding and collaboration with mentoring programs and resources to address social media influence on student behavior would help to improve student attendance and engagement.

2. [46379](#)

Madison Metropolitan School District/Madison Metro Youth Transportation Presentation

The following representatives were present to discuss transportation options available to students:

Mick Howen – Director of Administrative Services (MMSD)

Kelly Ruppel – Chief of Staff (MMSD)

Alex Garcia – Transit Schedule Planner (Metro Transit)

Howen discussed both yellow bus service and Metro Transit service options. In general students in middle and high school living more than 1.5 miles from school can get bus passes through Metro. MMSD works with Metro to set up routes available to students as primary transportation. Current after school activities use a late bus route via Metro. Next year that will be done via yellow bus service. Students attending summer school can also receive a summer bus pass. Taxis and contracted carriers with alternative vehicles are used to help transport students with special needs or those who are homeless.

Obstacles in the current transportation system include students losing bus passes, a shortage of busses and drivers, a shortage of taxis available and those living just outside the 1.5 mile boundary. On both the Northside and Blackhawk they have worked with yellow bus service to get large pockets of low-income students to school despite living just inside the boundary. Parents have also stepped up and can be available when busses are full to transport students. This is done November through April. Attendance has increased for these students.

3. [44988](#)

Check-in regarding new activities or updates that impact City/County/MMSD

Check-ins will be done next month.

The committee clarified upcoming agenda items. The April meeting will have an ERO Update and MOST update. April's meeting will be on the 5th. The May meeting will have a Community Schools Update and presentation regarding northside initiatives. The June meeting will feature community partners/facility use discussion and possibly food policy.

It was suggested the committee review recent discussions to focus on a particular item to take action on. A summary of recent discussion topics will be compiled.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bidar-Sielaff, seconded by Reyes to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 am.

Motion passed by voice vote.