**Central Area Advisory**

**General Meeting @ Piper High School**

**December 16, 2013**

**Welcome** – 9:32 am by Kristina Braziel

**Presentation – Mr. Tony Hunter, Chief Information Officer**

Mr. Hunter spoke about the development of the IT Strategic Plan. It will be presented to the Board in January for their input. The Strategic Plan identifies where the school technologies need to go, and how to best spend our monies. Also if more monies become available, a plan will help determine where they can best be spent. The Strategic Advisory committee has representative stakeholders from around the county – administration, teachers, parents, and business partners.

Surveys were sent to teachers, middle and high school students. They will use the data to help align the Strategic Plan to the District’s Strategic Plan.

Challenges facing the district include the aging of our current technologies. They hope to spend $8 million dollars to “refresh” the current computers. While the ratio of students to computers is

230,000 to 100,000 (2.3: 1), the number of instructionally ready computers (able to be used for videos and testing) is about 8 students to 1 computer. They hope to replace 1:1 old computers for new for about 12-13,000 or our aging computers. The infrastructure also needs to be upgraded – some schools are just not ready for the new technologies. Bandwidth needs to be addressed, and campuses need to be made wireless.

The district has rolled out a new website, and mobile app. Next year’s plan is to upgrade the school’s individual website to link with the district’s website. Also rolling out next year is the Microsoft Office 365 software for the business processes. Professional training and development will be provided when the support structure is in place.

Mr. Hunter took questions from the audience. Discussions included magnet school technologies, teacher training, programming standardization, and timing of technology rollouts. Mr. Hunter stressed that other departments such as professional development, academics/curriculum, instruction and intervention, and public relations have input into these decisions. He said he would bring to Tracy Clark in public relations a parent request to have the looping process linked to the website so parents can electronically voice their opinions. SAF chairs can use school computers to help anyone without internet access during their meetings.

Mr. Hunter stressed that technology is a tool. The District’s Strategic Plan goals are ultimately better communication, continual improvement, and high quality instruction. We use tools like technology to achieve them.

**Minutes**

Minutes from the November meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by Sandra Sneed, and seconded by Crystal Grant. Minutes were approved as is.

**DAC Report – Andrea Blackwood**

Two areas of concern were presented at the DAC meeting.

Senate Bill 1008, 1008.72 Individual Education Plan (IEP) requiring more parental involvement

Change is being made to the Human Sexuality program content and length of instruction.

PowerPoint presentation on both these items is available on the DAC website.

Also, changes are being considered to the code of conduct concerning the timeline of infractions (individual and nonviolent) to serving of suspensions. There needs to be time for the appeal process.

DAC has motioned the school board to hold in abeyance the penalties while appeals are ongoing. This topic leads to much discussion. Scott Jarvis, OSQ Assistant Director provided information about the process for students that commit infractions. Advisory members would like to have the Promise Program presented at a future meeting. It was noted that BECON has a presentation by Emilio Nievas on this topic.

**Elections**

The following positions are still open: Corresponding Secretary, HS rep #2, and Legislative Rep. The positions of Citizen at Large, ESE representative, and Teacher representative are also open and we will look to fill these at the next meeting.

**Other Business**

ESE advisory will be having a meeting this Wednesday evening at Piper HS.

Andrea Blackwood advised parents to check out the new graduation requirements – CAA will try to get a speaker for this subject.

**Motions and Discussion**

Motioned that the District provide the initial data collected from the student emergency cards about technologies available in the home and to the students to the advisory groups. Motion tabled to the next meeting where there is a quorum for voting.

Discussion stressed that CAA had prompted the district to get this information so the digital divide question can be addressed.

**Adjournment 11:34 am**

Next CAA Steering: Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 9 am, TSSC Bldg

Next CAA General: Monday, January 27, 2014, 9 am, Stranahan HS