

McCallum Campus Advisory Council (CAC)

McCallum Library
5600 Sunshine Drive
March 5, 2018

MINUTES

CAC members present: Administrators Mike Garrison, Gabe Reyes; Community Representative Susan Moffat; Teacher/Staff Representatives Stephen Burnette, Jan Farmer, Rachel Murray, Julie Rigby (Special Ed), Andrea Rogers (Classified); Student Representatives Nicholas Heinen, Sophia Ryland; Parent Representative Anne Heinen, Holly Eaton, Kevin Foster, Ellen Grady-Sessa, Liz Kline (also serving as Business Representative), Claire Mathias. Visitors present: Heather Ramsay, Jeff Seckar-Martinez, Ken Rogers, Joey Crumley.

1. **Call to order.** CAC Co-chair Anne Heinen called the meeting to order at 5:30pm and introduced Joey Crumley, AISD Planning Supervisor, who is conducting a regularly scheduled audit of the CAC.
2. **Approval of minutes.** Minutes of the February meeting were approved by electronic vote prior to the March meeting and posted to the MacKnightly News.
3. **McCallum Fine Arts Academy (MFAA) Enrollment Diversity.** In response to a request from the CAC about enrollment diversity in the MFAA, Heather Ramsay, MFAA coordinator, provided an overview of the Academy's admissions and recruitment processes and distributed a spreadsheet containing the Academy's current ethnicity statistics, noting that the Academy demographics more closely reflect the city as a whole, rather than the district. The Academy has no explicit diversity goals, but Ms. Ramsay stated that the opportunity is open to all students regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or home zip code. CAC members and Ms. Ramsay discussed possible barriers for minority and/or low-income students participating in the Academy. Ms. Ramsay observed that the district's ongoing refusal to provide transportation for the Academy is a large factor, as well as lack of family resources for instruments or lessons and thin support for the arts at the middle school level, especially at Title 1 campuses. Ms. Ramsay mentioned that Burnet Middle School now has a parent group that works with non-English speaking parents to help them through the Academy application process, though such support systems are not in place at all schools. Parent member Kevin Foster emphasized that if diversity is a value, there must be proactive efforts to increase it. Student member Nicholas Heinen mentioned that LASA was undertaking efforts to improve its diversity and that perhaps this approach could be mirrored at McCallum. Members also suggested increased outreach to underrepresented campuses. Faculty member Jeff Seckar-Martinez said conducting a study of this issue as part of his current graduate program and hopes to share his results with the CAC by the end of the spring semester. The CAC will continue this discussion.
4. **Campus Safety.** Principal Mike Garrison provided an overview of McCallum's safety procedures, noting that recent national events have renewed focus on

school safety. McCallum is required to conduct a variety of regular safety drills including one fire/evacuation drill each month, plus one lockdown drill, one severe weather/shelter-in-place drill, and one reverse evacuation drill each semester. All drills must be documented with the district. Mr. Garrison also stated that the school is working to limit entry points, which is a challenge given McCallum's multiple buildings and exterior doors, and noted the need for more security cameras. Many teachers are already in the habit of locking their classroom doors during class time to deter unexpected visitors (as with the exterior doors, classroom doors can always be opened from the inside to provide for quick escape if needed). CAC members also noted the need for a healthy school culture and student access to mental health services, in addition to security measures. In response, staff members provided an overview of the process and services available to students who need help or about whom safety concerns have been expressed. Students have confidentiality unless they are deemed at risk of hurting themselves or others. School counselors can coordinate between students and parents to obtain mental health services, including low-cost or no-cost services for families without insurance. If a student is deemed at risk of harm, the student is referred for mental health services or hospitalization, and parents or guardians have 48 hours to take them for assessment; inaction by the end of 48 hours would trigger a call to Child Protective Services. Students may also get passes to visit school counselors whenever needed. Parent members suggested that this information be routinely shared with students through Advisory, as many students may not be aware of how to get help. In response to a question about where parents could meet students in the event of a critical incident, Mr. Garrison said that the District cannot give out this information in advance for security reasons. If there is a critical incident, the district has a specific process that will be communicated at that time.

5. **Spring Testing Dates.** As announced at previous CAC meetings, state-mandated standardized tests will be given April 10-13 and May 7-10.
6. **Public Comment.** None.
7. **Announcements.** Mr. Garrison announced that the CAC will review the school budget at its April meeting.
8. **Adjourn.** There being no further business, the McCallum CAC adjourned its meeting at 6:40pm.