

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL 2007-2008

Principal: Terri Hanrahan
Vice-Chairman: Illiana Ebbole

Chairman: Karen Diedrick
Secretary: Marie Ringenberg

MINUTES – October 18, 2007

Attendance: 14

I. OPENING

Karen Diedrick welcomed members and guest speakers.

II. MINUTES

September 25, 2007 minutes as corrected were approved by Cindy Christensen and Gail Johnson.

III. GUEST SPEAKERS

Mrs. Mari Jourdan represented the heart screening committee for the free EKG heart screening, Young Hearts for Life™, which will be brought to Glenbard South by the Midwest Heart Foundation in partnership with Good Samaritan Hospital. GBS needs 200 volunteers, 100 each day for the EKG process on Nov. 29 & 30. Each week sudden cardiac death claims the lives of more than six young adults in the United States. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States and in Illinois. MHF, under the guidance of Dr. Joseph Marek, clinical cardiologist with Midwest Heart Specialists, is working to increase the awareness of sudden cardiac death. Please consider volunteering for this project.

Ms. Kathy Holmberg, from Glenbard South's guidance department presented valuable information for families of junior and senior students. Highlights included: Testing dates, PSAT-Oct. 20 for juniors; Plan-Nov. 1 for sophomores and Prairie State-April 23 & 24 for juniors. Criteria given for admission for highly selective schools, Northwestern and Stanford used as examples. Kathy gave members a handout also listing websites for vocational schools, special education information and others.

Other items of interest: Progression of tests "tracking" students - EXPLORE for 8th graders; PLAN for sophomores and the ACT for juniors; Prairie State does have the writing component but it is not included toward admission into college. She suggested not sending letters of recommended if colleges don't require it, Kathy stressed giving guidance counselors and teachers 3 weeks to process transcripts, letters of recommendation, scholarships, financial aid, etc.

Please visit GBS website and/or contact the guidance department for additional information.

IV. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms. Hanrahan began her presentation with a power point called Did You Know? which takes a look at emerging population patterns and technological advances. Therefore, as the world becomes increasingly technology driven, how do we as adults expand our own knowledge to provide challenging and relevant education for our children. Within the next 30 years, teachers and parents will need to work toward a change in the definition of education for students to function within a world culture enhanced by global technologies. A world very different from the one in which we grew up in!

*Low Income Statistics: 8.8% of the school's population is within this category. That is three times higher than the rate of poverty at South in 2003, which raises the question of what this means for the future, and how do we prepare for that population. Ms. Hanrahan feels it is morally important to get every student ready for the ACT test.

*As a result of the Gates pretest given to nearly all current freshmen, 61 students are reading below grade level. Twenty of those students are in an English 1 Basic class, 8 are in Self Contained Special Education, and the remaining 33 students are in regular English 1 classes.

*Literacy Support: GBS goal to have all teachers CRISS trained by August 2008: 31 currently trained, only 8 to go. Two reading specialists are engaging in Peer Literacy Coaching with their teacher colleagues.

*We are creating summer school academies to assist struggling readers. Summer school will be held at all 4 Glenbard's with a combination of repeat, remedial and enrichment courses. District 87 continues to investigate the idea of increasing graduation requirements for our students. The average number of Graduation Requirements in Chicagoland area high schools is 22.6, Glenbard only requires 21 credits, and we are pondering a move to 23 credits.

*Ms. Hanrahan offered the opportunity for service projects: Senior class – DuPage County Clean Up, Sophomore class – Chicago Food Depository

Announcements: Senior Josh Payne set a new school record for goals scored in a single season in soccer. The football team is in the playoffs. A victory on Friday vs. Sycamore could well give us home field advantage in the first round. The Consortium for Education Change (CEC), which assists districts with reviewing their vision and mission, will conduct meetings with teachers and parent groups Oct. 31 & Nov. 1.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Karen supported the district administration continued efforts in talking to Glen Crest and the Elementary schools. Board of Education meeting is Monday, Nov. 22 at Glenbard South. College Fair – November 7. District 89 has a website established for referendum information. Karen thanked Ms. Kathy Holmberg again for her report and encouraged members to visit GBS guidance department's website.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Inquires were again raised about the Church property adjacent to Glenbard South currently for sale. The Executive Board members will meet to discuss CAC's official role, if any, would entail.

Viraj Dhebar made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Martha Morse. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am. The next meeting will be November 27 at 9:30 a.m. in ACR.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Ringenberg
CAC Secretary