

# MINUTES

## **UME Prep PAC Minutes**

December 7, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Suzanne Tatro at 12.30pm.

### **In attendance**

Suzanne Tatro, Dr. Barker Barker, Denise McConnell, Kristyl Burkey, Rachel Simmons, Brandy Low, Shelley Baldwin, Jen Freeman

Guests: Kayla Smith, Christina Bock

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were read from the November 3, 2015, meeting and approved.

### **Welcome**

Brandy discussed this month's character quality (Forgiveness), and reminded the group that not only is forgiveness a choice we need to extend to others, but to ourselves as well. Denise read and discussed the vision statement of the PAC. Having a vision statement gives us a base to go back to whenever confusion arises, and informs every choice we make. She encouraged the PAC to keep the vision statement before us and to allow it to impact our decisions.

### **Board/PAC Updates**

Rachel Simmons accepted her nomination from last meeting for vice president. Suzanne asked for a motion to be made for VP, Kristyl motioned, Laci seconded. Unanimous 'ayes' were in favor of Rachel, confirming her election as vice president.

### **Guest Speaker**

Christina Bock spoke to the group about the school's federal programs and her role. Mrs. Bock is in charge of the federal programs for UME Prep, which means she handles the Title 1 programs, such as TAGS (Targeted Assistance and Guided Study) in addition, she is the Child Nutrition Director and at-risk coordinator, as well as assisting Dr. Barker.

Mrs. Bock spoke specifically about the school's status as a 'school-wide Title I' school. Title I allows for federal money to be used at the school to supplement our scholars learning. Previously the school was 'targeted assistance' only, meaning that Title I funds could only be used on programs that were being utilized by Title I qualified students exclusively. We are now designated as a school wide Title I school, which is less restrictive and means that Title I funds can be used on programs that can be accessed by all scholars. Please note that the students are designated Title I because that's what they would be in their district schools.

The main intervention program currently in place at UME Prep is the TAGS program, which merged this year with the at-risk program. At-risk is concerning those students at risk of dropping out of school, and includes things like summer school.

Every year there is a campus needs assessment that is completed, typically in March. This is available online on the school's webpage, and should be utilized by parents as well as the faculty. This assessment is used to complete a 'campus improvement plan'. That plan is used to determine fund allocations for the following school year.

It was clarified that Sp. Ed students or 504 students are not naturally excluded from participation in the TAGS program. Those students are on a list that is given to Ms. Sanford, who determines on an individual basis if the TAGS program would benefit that student. It was also clarified that for grades 1-3 a child is not required to attend, but can be recommended. However, if a student has failed their STAAR test, they are required to participate in the program.

It was also clarified that if 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade students are not selected for the TAGS program, they currently cannot attend voluntarily. This is due to budget restrictions, as some money is earmarked for 'at risk' students only separately from the Title I TAGS funds. Also, tutor groups are ideally kept small.

### **Eagle Update**

Dr. Barker requested that if anyone has feedback or suggestions for the Eagle Updates to pass them along to him. It was mentioned that the high school students have enjoyed seeing their pictures and names in the update, as well as having the chance to write articles for it. It was suggested to include the names of the lower grade students who may appear, and possibly giving the 7<sup>th</sup> grade journalism class a chance to write for the update.

It was also mentioned that PAC members have contributed and will continue to do so.

### **Fundraising Update**

The fundraising forms for the Box Tops and Chick fila night have been approved and will be passed to the treasurer. Chick fila night made \$338 dollars for the PAC treasury. Jen will contact the Box Tops people about getting collection boxes to place around the school.

There was question about the proposed car sticker fundraising overlapping with an athletics fundraiser. Jen will get with Coach Ignatz to confirm what the athletics department is doing.

The UME Resale shop will be held on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> after school and at the holiday concert.

We will plan to have Spring Creek and Chick fila spirit nights in the spring as well. For future fundraising opportunities we will continue planning for the golf tournament in the spring and we are looking for sponsors for that event. North Texas Giving Day will also be a yearly event.

Dr. Barker also discussed a new proposed program, Eagles Take Flight, which will be a fundraising service project program for the K-11 students. The intention is to have people sponsor the students to engage in service projects, as opposed to sponsoring for each mile at a fun run for example.

### **Town Hall Recap**

We have looked through the feedback forms from the Town Halls, and will have the meeting notes sent out once they have been gone over by Dr. Barker and Suzanne Tatro. These will also be linked on the Parent Resource page on the school website, and a link will be included on the next Eagle Update.

On the feedback forms there were multiple requests for an open Q&A session for the next town hall. Some suggestions were given for how to incorporate that without losing control of the meeting, including allowing it for clarification and rebuttal only instead of new queries, first come/first served slots for a numbered amount of questions, and ensuring that a PAC member holds the mic.

Some concerns were brought up about making sure that we do not limit the parents voices in future town halls, and that we need to ensure that we keep the lines of communication fair and open.

### **Class Parties and Student Events**

Class Christmas parties will be held during PE on December 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The grade parents are meeting to make the formal plans for each party, and they have been given permission to have food and drinks for these parties.

The upper grades do not have parties planned, though Ms. Smith gave her permission to students who requested to make plans for their own during the long lunch period provided they were able to get parent involvement. Suzanne will look into making that happen.

The Daddy/Daughter event this year will not be a dance, as voted on by the girls in the school. It will take place on February 6<sup>th</sup> at a TBD location, and the Mother/Son event will be held on February 20<sup>th</sup> at a TBD location.

Concerns were raised about the PAC's current lack of involvement with the high school students in regards to planned events, such as Christmas parties. We do not want to send a message to the high school that they are less important in some way than the lower grades.

Kristyl motioned to discuss a 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> SGA rep during the January PAC meeting.

**Teacher Gifts**

The teacher gifts are mainly supported by the PAC, there are 75 total gifts. In case there are not enough funds or supplies donated, it was motioned, seconded, and passed that Rachel and Kristyl could use up to \$150 of PAC funds to complete the teacher gifts.

Motion to adjourn was made at 2pm and was passed unanimously.