



EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: October 18, 2023, 4:30 – 6:30 pm

MEETING MINUTES

Members present: Glenda Augustine, Mike Berman, Lisa Farhi, Ariel Mendez, Ed Reed, Jacqueline Renfrow, Cecil Rucker, Dom Sain-loth, Ansalan Stewart, Wendy Whitaker

Not present: Ilana Simhon, Inaka Ibarra.

Topics of discussion:

1. Welcome and Review Meeting Objectives
2. Approval of September Meeting Minutes
 - a. Minutes approved
3. Mayor and Council Meeting Recap- Ariel Mendez, Jackie Renfrow, Dom Saint-Loth
 - a. Councilmember Mark Pierzchala asked about deliverables for the Commission
 - b. Councilmember Monique Ashton recommended coordinating with Human Rights Commission and Youth Commission
 - c. Councilmember Beryl Feinberg recommending coordinating with city services like police, cross guards
 - d. Councilmember David Myles recommended highlighting mental health needs and resources
4. Discussion about FY24 Goals
 - a. Listen and Learn, Advocate, Strengthen Communication and Collaboration
 - b. Ways the Council can advocate include providing input on reports and plans (like CIP plan), identify connections to make with City, reminder of potential connection mentioned in previous meeting Lisa Moran
5. Establishment of Subcommittee Guidelines and Commission Protocols
 - a. Formalize subcommittees
 - i. Business Partnerships- Jacquie, Mike, Ansalan
 - ii. Teacher Recruitment and Retention- Lisa and Ed
 - iii. Private Outreach- Ariel, Glenda
 - iv. PTA/School Administrator Outreach- Llana, Wendy
 - b. For subcommittee communications: specify in subject line "Subcommittee Name: name of topic/project" to easily search and follow topics in email
 - c. Subcommittee protocols: Report out by sending topic summaries prior to each monthly Commission meeting (brief bullet points); share/ highlight important points in meeting; Chairperson will send out a call for these one week prior to the meetings; CJ uploads the agenda for meeting COB Mondays before meetings); identify timeline for activities in sub-committee
 - d. Commission protocol discussion: prioritize group cohesion and working well together, consider adding open forum discussion time in meeting, on a case-by-case basis maintain balance between addressing in emails vs waiting for discussion in Commission

meeting; subcommittees can meet separately on a call to work out topics in between meetings but raise decisions or action plans to the full Commission; Chair can call an emergency additional meeting if needed; Add at least one in-person meeting per year to build relationships

6. Brainstorm Subcommittee Deliverables

a. Business Partnerships

- i. Connect with Rockville Chamber of Commerce, Rockville Economic Development, Inc (REDI), and other business professionals
- ii. Consider inviting representatives to future Commission meeting; Topic: How could schools be more connected with Rockville businesses; connect them with PTA needs
- iii. Suggested leads: Moreguard Rockville (Town Square), Rotary, Rockville Innovation Center
- iv. Align with PTA or Principal input from both private and public to ensure Commission understands what schools actually need; suggestion to email/survey representatives from each school soliciting input on needs from business partnerships; this committee should communicate /connect with Private Schools and PTA/School Administrators subcommittees
- v. Recommendation to review existing reports of school needs like the MCPS letter from clusters that Dom shared with Commission

b. Teacher Recruitment and Retention

- i. Connect with H.S. college & career readiness professionals, child development programs, and Montgomery College
- ii. Suggestion to bring speakers from best practice programs and listen to success stories

7. Action Items and Next Steps

- a. Business Partnerships to report out plan to better understand school needs for business partnerships, consider December timeline for using Commission meeting time for business engagement
- b. Other subcommittees should meet and identify overall plans for action and draft plans for inviting people/ leaders and teachers/ others to future meetings to coordinate across other subcommittees in next meeting