

Illinois School for the Deaf Advisory Council Meeting Summary
May 4, 2023
9:00am – 12:30pm
Meeting held at ISD Campus

Members Present:

Karla Giese, Julee Nist, Shirley Wilson, Deb Gossrow, Pam Walker, Tamara Jones, Taylor Ozee, Carrie Tucker

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Desa Walls, Amy Bordean, Michelle Brown, Laci Kennedy, John Miller, Jesse Hayes, Angie Kuhn, Jill Bruington, Christine Good-Deal

Welcome, Roll Call and Introduction of Visitors:

Karla welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 9:01am. Roll call and introductions were completed.

Reading and Approval of March 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes:

Tamara made a motion to approve the March 9, 2023 meeting minutes. Deb seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting minutes from March 9, 2023 were approved.

New Business:

- **2024 Council Members**

- Update – Karla announced that 9 members are required to have a full council. One-third of the members shall be parents or guardians, one-third shall be persons with a disability, and one-third shall be individuals with recognized expertise in a field related to deaf education. She explained that there are currently 4 members who are parents, 3 members who are in deaf education and 0 members with a disability. Karla thanked Desa for recruiting new members and announced that 4 new member applications are provided in the council member's information packet.
- Nominations for 2024 – The council discussed the new member applicants for Advisory Council.
- Vote – The council voted, and the new members were announced. Karla announced that Carrie's term expires after today's meeting, but she is eligible to run for a 2nd term. Carrie accepted. Tamara made a motion to accept Carrie's 2nd term. Shirley seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote. Karla announced that there were no nominations for Advisory Council Chair. Pam made a motion to accept Karla as Chair for another year. Tamara seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote. Karla reported that Pam is currently Vice Chair and Deb nominated herself for any vacant position. Pam accepted to continue as Vice Chair, so Deb rescinded her nomination. Tamara made a motion to vote for Pam to continue as Vice Chair. Deb seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote. Karla announced that Carrie is currently the Advisory Council Secretary. Carrie announced that she can continue as Secretary, so Deb rescinded her nomination. Pam made a motion to vote for Carrie to continue her role as Secretary. Tamara seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote.

- **2024 Council Meeting Dates:**
 - Karla reported that the council has been meeting on Thursdays with the May meeting being held in person. Karla asked council members which days will work best for them. The council discussed and it was decided that Wednesdays and Thursdays will work best. Karla announced the meeting dates for 2023-2024. The suggested meeting dates are August 30 (Zoom), December 7 (Zoom), March 6 (Zoom), and May 2 (In Person). Deb made a motion to vote on the meeting dates for 2023-2024. Pam seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote.

- **PTSO Update:**
 - Deb reported that there is \$3000 in the PTSO account. There has been requests for funds to support travel for sporting events. She explained that funds are raised by selling ISD spirit wear. The PTSO currently use OutBreak Designs, but someone suggested adding a permanent online store to order spirit wear year-round. OutBreak Designs was not able to provide that, so the PTSO will use Impressions Design in Springfield for the permanent website. Paper orders will still be available during the Fall and Spring and should be sent to Alaina in CTE.

- **CTE/TLP Kitchen Update**
 - Deb announced that there has been a lot going on and she does not have any updates regarding the CTE/TLP kitchen. She plans to meet with different businesses after school is out for the summer.

- **Membership recruitment:**
 - Karla encouraged council member to continue to recruit new members.

Old Business:

- **By-Laws Review Update:**
 - The Advisory Council By-Laws update will be discussed at the next meeting.

Reports:

- **ISD Superintendent's Report (Julee Nist)**
 - Julee announced that she emailed her report to council members prior to the meeting. She reported that the Boston Consulting Group recently visited ISD. Some staff were interviewed for recommendations on school improvement. Julee reported that ISD has a number 1 rating for staff retention. She thanked the staff who participated in the interviews and plans to receive a finalized report at some point in the future.

- **Other Department Reports:**
 - Elementary – Angie reported that the students who participated in The Battle of the Books won all five rounds on the first day and lost the first round during the second day. ISD placed 4th out of 6 teams. The students were able to go to Washington DC a day early to sight see. Angie announced that the ISD Elementary Spring Program will be on May 25, 2023 at 2:00pm and will have a Disney theme. She invited the council members to attend. Angie shared that the students have completed Spring testing and that some

- students will have their artwork displayed at the American School for the Deaf. She also shared that the school has been celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week this week.
- Jr/Sr High School – Christine reported that the students have completed their PSAT, SAT, and IAR testing. She shared that the principals took staff out to dinner for Administrative Professionals Day and explained how the high school is celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week. Christine shared that the Jr/Sr high school have been giving the students tickets for positive behavior. The students can enter their tickets into a drawing to win different prizes. She also shared that the students recently finished studying Macbeth. The high school organized an awards ceremony for the students to attend. She announced that ISD Prom is all set. There will also be a small 8th grade promotion ceremony outside for future Freshman. High school graduation will be on May 26. Christine announced that the Senior class will go to St. Louis for their senior trip. Pam asked if Christine could share the Macbeth videos with council members.
 - CTE – Jill announced that CTE recently had the CTE Advisory Council Meeting. She shared that there is 1 student enrolled in Lincoln Land Community College, 1 student received their fork-lift certificate, and 2 students are taking a horticulture class at ISVI. She explained that the PAES LAB is up and running and there are currently 5-6 students for 2 class periods. Brandy has been working with students to help them lead their own IEP meetings. She has helped 24 students complete this task. February was CTE month. Students chosen for student of the week had a pizza party and received a shirt. There was also a raffle selling items made by the woods class. The proceeds will be used for supplies for the woods class. Deb mentioned that the class accepts outside orders and that they made her kitchen table. Karla asked if the class offered items for sale. Jill explained that they do not, but you can put in an order to have items made. Pam asked Jill to share JC's contact information. Jill mentioned that 10 TLP students will age out this year. Karla asked what the students plan to do after they graduate from the TLP program. Jill explained that the students plan to seek employment.
 - Dorm – John presented a power point about dorm activities during the school year. He announced that Nestle sponsored a staff and student event held at ISD. ISD will have a "Tiger Bash" on May 23 from 1:00pm-9:00pm. The event will be open for all staff and students. There will be several different stations set up with games and prizes. Popcorn, cotton candy, temporary tattoos, and Leo's Pizza will be offered. There will be an outdoor movie at 5:30pm for younger students and one for the older students immediately following. John thanked Nestle for making this event possible.
 - Athletics – Desa shared a power point of this year's athletic events. She announced that ISD will host homecoming again in January. September 23rd is Deaf Alumni Day and ISD will host a 5K walk/run. Desa also shared information about extracurricular activities at ISD. Karla asked about the Leo Club and Desa explained that Leo Club is a club that teaches students how to give back to the community.

Julee thanked everyone for presenting today.

Discussion:

- Deb shared that she recently became aware of a law that requires kids, ages 12-18, to provide their signature for their parent to have access to medical records. Deb explained that she filed a petition and was granted access to her son's medical records. She shared that she addressed the Senate Committee for Public Health and there will be

an amendment added to the bill to give consideration for special needs children. It is currently in the House.

Suggested Agenda Items for the Next Meeting:

- No discussion

Public Comment:

- No discussion

Adjourn:

- Deb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tamara seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 11:38am.

2023-2024 Meeting Dates :

August 30, 2023 (Zoom)

December 7, 2023 (Zoom)

March 6, 2024 (Zoom)

May 2, 2024 (In Person)