

**Citizen's Advisory Committee
Tuesday, November 9, 2010 7:00-9:00 p.m.
University High School Library
Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order: Ken Fansler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Clark Brooks, Judi Doubet, Ken Fansler, Marijane Galvan, Bob Piker, Eric Ruud, John Tuttle, Valerie Wilder, Barbara Jacobsen, April Davenport, and Dr. Dean.

Absent: Jan Murphey, Mark Adams

Additions to the agenda: None.

Introductions & Acknowledgement of Visitors: Dr. Amy Coffman, Metcalf Principal, and Wes Matejka, Metcalf Technology Coordinator, were welcomed by the chair.

Minutes: Prior regular meeting minutes are approved and posted on the web at <http://www.uhigh.ilstu.edu/cac/index.htm>

Guest Presentation – Metcalf Technology, Dr. Amy Coffman and Wes Matejka

Dr. Coffman and Mr. Matejka provided an overview of how technology has evolved over the past two years at Metcalf. Developing a technology plan for ages 4-14 is a challenging undertaking given the wide variation of student and teacher needs; programming for pre-k students is far different than for middle school students. A variety of technologies – laptops, ipod touches, smartboards, and ipads have been introduced at Metcalf. The initial focus was on helping teachers become more comfortable with some of the available technologies as they are the ones who ultimately need to use these tools to improve instruction. Teachers have responded with excitement as they continue to discover meaningful ways to use the new technologies. A variety of applications were highlighted throughout the school. As we look to the future, the focus continues to be on staff development for teachers. It was also pointed out that both Metcalf and U-High benefit from being connected to the ISU network and having access to many knowledgeable people on campus.

Review of Committees

Legislative Forum – Eric Ruud provided a brief update on the plans for hosting area legislators to speak to CAC on education issues.

Technology – Ken Fansler provided an overview of the upcoming technology conference being held at ISU. The conference hopes to help teacher education students become more familiar with how to effectively use technology in the classroom. Future plans include opening up the conference to practicing teachers throughout the area.

Report from Administrative Representative

- *Skylert Test Message* – The test went smoothly and helped the administration identify a few inactive phone numbers. Dr. Dean reminded the group that parents do have some control over how they choose to receive messages.
- *Graduation Date Finalized* – The survey was evenly split between Saturday and Sunday. The Sunday date (May 22, 2011, at 2:00 p.m.) was selected in an effort to avoid conflicts with as many of the year end school activities as possible.
- *Faculty Vacancies for FY12* – Searches will begin for 4 vacancies at University High School: Librarian, Social Science, Physical Education, and Science. Not all the

- vacancies are related to turnover as some of these positions were on hold due to the unpredictable nature of school funding in Illinois.
- *Stroud Renovation* – The renovation has been delayed by a few weeks, but should not impact second semester activities.
 - *Air Quality Test in Hayden Auditorium* – Air quality tests were conducted to make sure there were no health related issues in Hayden. Air quality tests were completed by Health and Environmental Safety Office personnel. No health related concerns were identified.
 - *Chicago Sun Times Student Test Analysis Report* – A brief overview of the Chicago Sun Times rating of Illinois high schools based on the Prairie State reading and math scores was reviewed. U-High ranked 8th out of the top 100 high schools in Illinois. A link to the report can be found on the U-High website.
 - *Study Committee – Accelerated Course Taking in Mathematics* – A study committee has been formed to review the criteria used to place Metcalf students in math courses at U-High. The committee is just beginning and their findings will be shared in the future.
 - *Salary Study* – Dr. Dean will be conducting a salary study this year for the Lab Schools. He has completed several of these during his tenure in the Lab Schools and has discovered that Lab School teachers are paid approximately \$7,000 less on average than their Unit 5 peers.
 - *Funding by the State of Illinois* – Dr. Dean provided additional information on how the state of Illinois funds public education. Given the current fiscal picture in Illinois, school funding will most likely continue to be challenging.

Meeting dates for 2010-2011 – January 11 and March 15

Items for Next Agenda and Adjournment

- Topics for the next meeting include Grant Writing Strategies and an update on the Netbook student survey.
- Ken Fansler adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.