

# CITY OF GREENBELT

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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Tuesday, February 22, 2011

**PRESENT:** ACE Members: Laretta Baugh, Susan Breon, Alla Lake, Veronica Martin-Frederick, Don Rich, Sudhanshu Sinha, City Councilmember Leta Mach and Staff Liaison Wendy Wexler.

Minutes of January 25, 2011 were accepted as is.

### **EDUCATOR AWARDS Prep – 4/11.**

Wendy reports that the newly selected date of 4/11 – now conflicts with the last day of the Maryland Legislative Session. Therefore, there is some difficulty finding a representative from our Delegation to make the certificate presentation. Wendy is working with Pam Powers in their office to see that someone is identified to do that. Wendy will send out an email reminder to ACE members of the kind of food that they need to bring to help with small pre-Awards reception.

So far we have received a response from only Greenbelt Elementary School. There still is time to hear from the others as the deadline for submission is 3/23.

### **STUDENT AWARDS PREP – 5/9.**

The prep will be much the same as it is for the Educators Awards. We will still have to divvy up the narratives for the development of the “script” that the MC will read. It is likely that Jon will be available to take on that responsibility, but he does like to have a co-host for the evening. Additionally one concern ACE has is that because of the change in the schedules, the schools will have to deal with two Award events very close to one another. It is likely that they will need lots of reminders for that.

Again, Wendy will send out an email with the reception needs for the evening.

### **MUSIC FESTIVAL – 5/1.**

Because Dave was out sick, Wendy reported on his behalf. Dave announced that the date of Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> has been selected. There will be an expense of about \$250 to cover the janitorial costs. ACE members will have to take on the job of publicity. It is suggested that a flyer be developed and places in local venues such as the Library, the New Deal Café and the Coop. Additionally, ACE plans to make good use of the internet by writing an article for the News Review, putting notices in the PTA Newsletters, notifying school principals and placing notices on the City website and in local community newsletters.

Beyond that, Dave really needs ACE members to be present on the day of the event (exact times are not yet known) to help with the organization.

Mr. Farmer will be responsible for contact with the building maintenance; Ms. Fung will

take care of contact with the instrumental students – and perhaps, also with the choral groups.

### **MATH COMPETITION.**

Susan reports that she is working with Brian Weeks at GES in the development of this event. She is still waiting to hear back from both Magnolia ES and Turning Point Academy. Each school is asked to appoint someone who will organize their 6<sup>th</sup> grade math competition team. Those contacts will coordinate the program with Brian Weeks. He will be the contact person for GES and GMS has also selected a teacher to be their contact. They will develop the format and questions. A date has not yet been settled on. ACE Liaisons need to work with their schools to make sure they have contacted either Susan or Brian Weeks ([Brian.Weeks@pgcps.org](mailto:Brian.Weeks@pgcps.org)) We will look to ERHS to supply the judges and ushers.

Some funds will be needed to pay for janitorial staff and trophies. Leta reminds us that we do have some unused funds from the Grant Proposals that can cover these expenses for both the Math and the Music events. Veronica will send Alla a website for inexpensive trophies and medals.

### **SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY FOR ACE CLUBS.**

Oddly this year we have had a number of Club cancellations due to snow. As this was not previously mentioned in the contracts with the leaders of the ACE Reading and Science Clubs they were paid for their missed events. After a great deal of discussion it was decided that ACE would continue to choose to pay them should this happen again in the future. The educators especially felt strongly that even if it snowed a great deal of time and effort went into the development of the lesson plans and equipment needed. It was also decided that rescheduling was not a doable situation as attendance would likely be nil given that confusion. The vote was 6 – 0 in favor of continuing to pay the leaders should a snow cancellation take place.

In further discussion about the Clubs, Leta is going to contact Malia Murray to see if she can, through her involvement with GATE, videotape the Club meetings. ACE members hope that interest will increase attendance.

### **PGCPS BUDGET.**

Wendy distributed copies of the projected PGCPS budget cuts. Leta reported that Council, which would normally have sought a report from ACE about this, felt it had to move quickly in order to have their thoughts be heard during the decision making process, invited School Board member to speak at a City Council meeting. Following that meeting, Council composed a letter to the Governor asking him to find the replacement funds and even suggested Council's support for an increased "drink tax" as a way of helping to pay for this.

### **MISCELLANEOUS.**

ACE members discussed how sorry they are to learn that Sharon Porter is leaving GMS, after all the positive changes she has brought. They are hoping that Warren Tweedy will be named the acting Principal as a way of avoiding too much disruption.

The GMS Art Gallery, partially paid by the ACE Grant that they received, begins on Thursday evening at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Vijay Kowtha has been in contact with Principal Gillens at MES to help out with the school's new robotics program.

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**ACE CALENDAR** – Please let Wendy know if you are **NOT** able to attend.

**Unless noted all meetings will now take place in the Second Floor City Council Room, City Municipal Building.**

**3/22....Regular Monthly Meeting – 7 PM**

**4/11....ACE Educators Awards – 7:30 PM**

**4/26... Regular Monthly Meeting – 7 PM**

**5/9.....ACE Student Awards – 7:30 PM**

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