
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Title VII Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

May 11, 2016 Borough Building, Soldotna, AK

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Carolyn Choate Joycyln Graham John Kelly Rebecca Dixon Monica Anderson John Kelly	Homer Flex (via Lync) Homer High School KPBSD School Board (via Lync) Seward (via Lync) Homer Middle/West Homer (via Lync) School Board Liaison (via Lync)
STAFF PRESENT:	Conrad Woodhead Timothy Vlasak Maribeth Snell Deanna Leslie Jennifer Freeman Bonnie Pierce	KPBSD Native Education Coordinator Director, Federal Programs and K-12 Schools Grants Specialist/Title I/Title VII/Migrant Ed. Administrative Secretary II, Federal Programs Project GRAD Project GRAD
PUBLIC PRESENT:	Shannon Dodge David J. Knight George Holly	Kenaitze Kenaitze

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Conrad Woodhead opened the meeting with introductions of committee members, staff and public present at the meeting.

II. PURPOSE

Conrad then reiterated the purpose of KPBSD's Title VII program, which is to provide supplemental supports for Alaska Native and American Indian students for a successful experience throughout K-12 schooling years through prioritized targeted assistance.

III. NUMBER OF IDENTIFIED STUDENTS

The current number of identified Title VII students in the district is 1143. Conrad explained the enrollment process to the committee and shared the letter to parents that accompanies the Title VII enrollment form in all enrollment packets at the beginning of the school year. Enrollment in Title VII is voluntary. This year, an effort was made to track down eligible students who had not enrolled, and forms were submitted for 30 additional students. Conrad asked for suggestions to improve the enrollment process. Bonnie Pierce added that parents sometimes face a problem when their child's demographics do not match what is stated on the Title VII enrollment form. Jennifer Freeman added that siblings are often overlooked, and parents need to understand that a form is required for each child.

IV. ANSEP UPDATE

Conrad reported on the recent participation of KPBSD students in the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP). The program is available for students grades 6-8 who are on track for 9th grade algebra by the 8th grade. Last year, our first year of participation in ANSEP, we sent 48 kids. Out of that number, 24 signed up for the ANSEP summer program. This year 18 students participated and all 18 have signed up for the summer program. Title VII will provide funding towards travel scholarships for the students who are accepted. Shannon Dodge noted that the program is a good thing to emphasize to parents who might not realize the benefits that may come later through enrolling in their child in Title VII.

V. PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

Members present from our partnership organizations were allotted ten minutes each.

A. Project GRAD

Jennifer Freeman presented an update for Project GRAD beginning with introducing John Holland, KPNYL's Northern Schools student representative. Suzanne LaBelle was selected as the Southern Schools representative. KPNYL is available at 12 sites for middle and high school students. Out of the 433 Title VII Students that are eligible for participation, 119 are participating. Fifty-nine Title VII student members have earned .5 Leadership Elective Credit and 40 have earned .5 Leadership Credit. This summer students will have the opportunity to do a 6 week internship with Kenaitze, attend the Summer College Institute from 5/23/16-6/3/16 and earn .5 elective credit, attend the Unity Conference in Oklahoma City, OK and attend the Cultural Exchange Institute. Almost 50 students will attend the Cultural Exchange, which is a private event by invitation only.

B. Kenaitze

David Knight updated the Committee on the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. They will soon be conducting final interviews to fill tutoring positions at Mountain View Elementary and Kenai Middle School. All of the candidates have a background in education. They expect to have a decision on the hire the week of May 23. Shannon Dodge will work with teachers and tutors to assess needs and help to clarify the Title VII program. Kenaitze will begin their summer program at the end of June.

C. Grant Update

Conrad updated the committee on an Alaska Native Education grant the district is applying for in conjunction with Kenaitze. Funding is being sought for tutors at Kenai Middle, Ninilchik School, Seward Middle and Homer Middle. He expressed his appreciation for the help of their grant writer.

VI. Title VII ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

Conrad presented the latest version of the by-laws to the committee for approval. The two committee members that were still present, Carolyn Choate and Joycelyn Graeme, approved the by-laws. A discussion ensued regarding the recruitment of new committee members and how to better communicate information about the program to students, parents and the community. Conrad stated that there will be a press release regarding committee positions, and the possibility of a mailing and social media was also discussed.

VII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned with the next meeting set for September 21, 2016 from 2:30-4:30pm.