

**Benton Middle School  
Principal's Advisory Council  
November 19, 2024 - Agenda  
6:00 – Zoom**

Mrs. Erickson called the meeting to order with the introduction of the participants of the PAC's meeting. In attendance were: Kathy Erickson (Assistant Principal), Jerri Piacesi (Principal), Claudia Smith (Parent), Tammi Bailey-Case (Counselor), Cheryl Brandell (Reading Specialist), Christina Devers (Social Worker), Sally Holland (Administration), Emily Johnson (Science), William Hutchinson (Science), Casey Hadsall (Parent - Chair), Asha Brooks (Parent), Kasia Wilson (Parent), Megan McCourt (Parent), Kelly Carson (Language Arts), Karen Edwards (EL), Stacy Blake (Social Studies), Kevin Flores (Counselor), Mason Vann (Student), Michelle Atkins (Counselor), Ryan Smith (Student), True Sneed (Student), Vanessa Olson (Parent), Wyatt Sharp (Student), and Sabrina Escobar (Parent Liaison).

**Administrative Business** – Mrs. Hadsall/Mrs. Erickson

Mrs. Hadsall called for a “first” to approve the By-Laws and Mrs. Smith had comments to add prior to the call for approval. Mrs. Smith inquired about a higher parent representation level for the PAC. She also noted typographical errors. Mrs. Erickson responded that those typographical errors would be corrected and addressed parent representation. Additional By-Law article verbiage was discussed. It was agreed that Mrs. Erickson would make those edits and present an updated By-Laws document at the next meeting for review and approval.

**Principal's Report** – Mrs. Piacesi

*Staffing* – Based on additional funding, two new SpEd teachers will be hired to address the number of students requiring special education services. PWCS did provide funds to hire two additional teacher assistants (Level 1 and Level II Special Education positions). A teacher assistant is also being sought for the “Restorative Practice” room. Those interviews are pending.

*Budget* – Benton is in a “very good spot” Mrs. Piacesi reported based on the budget she received in November.

*School Events* – Mrs. Piacesi noted that the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Expo will occur on 12/3/24 at Benton. She also said that the music fundraiser went well and pick up will occur in December. She announced that the 4-H Club had the “Honey Bee Queen” come and speak to the club. With great pride, she reminded the group that music concerts are upcoming as well. She also announced that Benton's Food Drive reached 97 bags of food (goal was 80). She noted that the food would be distributed to Benton families. She also announced that the “Giving Tree” was up with parents and staff invited to take an “ornament” that has a Benton family in-need student request for a holiday gift.

**SACI Report – Mrs. Smith/Mrs. Olson**

Mrs. Smith shared an extensive report from the SACI's meeting that occurred in October. She will share the slides and her notes with the group in a separate email. She noted that 97% of PWC Schools are accredited. Mrs. Smith solicited input from the PAC participants and noted that she would keep their identities confidential as she would represent their comments or concerns at the SACI meeting.

**Counseling Department – Mr. Flores**

Mr. Flores provided a breakdown of the mental health efforts which the Benton Guidance Department are addressing this school year. He noted that these goals are in line with those outlined in PWCS. He further explained how these efforts are successfully being met at Benton through large group, small group, and one-on-one interactions. At the conclusion of Mr. Flores's presentation, Mrs. Smith asked if the topics addressed in the large group meetings were revisited with various grade levels or annually. Mr. Flores and staff reassured the group that topics are revisited throughout the year through various classes as well as in small group and one-on-one opportunities.

**Round Table** – Mrs. Erickson thanked the participants for their time and dedication and then asked if any PAC participant had a comment or concern that may be addressed at this or the next meeting. No comments were made.

With no further business, Mrs. Erickson adjourned the meeting at 7:11pm.

**Next Meeting will occur on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> and will be hybrid (combination of in-person and Zoom)**