

Parent Advisory Meeting Notes  
February 1, 2018

The Parent Advisory meeting was held on February 1, 2018, with 15 parent representatives in attendance.

Esperanza McCrary, Parent Engagement Specialist, welcomed the group to the Parent Advisory meeting.

Mr. Millard House, Director of Schools, briefly discussed the recent school closures. He also talked about how the feedback regarding the Spanish Immersion program was reviewed and some changes were made as a result of the group's feedback. Mr. House opened a discussion in response to the recent events in Kentucky. He explained the security upgrades which have taken place in the CMCSS district and listed off some of our security features.

- All of our schools have secure entrances.
- All high schools and middle schools have an SRO. There are twelve SROs split between the elementary schools. Their presence is welcomed and the SROs develop relationships with our students, faculty and staff. Students are sometimes the best means of dealing with investigations. We meet quarterly with local law enforcement and discuss security issues.
- The police station located on the Minglewood campus is on CMCSS property and there is discussion about doing the same thing on the Rossview campus. It was done intentionally to have a law enforcement presence.
- Buses have security cameras, GPS, and radios with panic buttons.
- RAPTOR

There is still nothing better than people talking and providing tips. The best source of security is people looking out, focusing on behaviors, etc. Seventy-five percent of the information that makes it to the district level are not credible. Our enemy is social media. Middle schools are utilizing an app on the laptops, which allows students to send messages to teachers about concerns.

### **Parent Questions**

Why don't we have metal detectors in the schools?

We do not utilize metal detectors inside the buildings. It sends a double message: it gives some peace of mind but others think it indicates an unsafe situation.

Are parents notified when a school is put on lock down?

If there is a credible threat, parents will be notified. We do not want to worry parents unnecessarily. CMCSS gets the message out as soon as possible.

How are security situations handled at the middle college?

APSU has security and CMCSS students are able to sign up for notifications through APSU. Our students at the middle college are treated just like the APSU students.

Do the students practice what to do in the case of a major event?

Yes. The students practice several drills, to include fire, tornado, lock downs, etc. Each school also has a security team and have many processes in place, which would be followed in a major event.

Every time CMCSS hears about a threat, it is investigated.

Dr. Jean Luna, High School Director, updated parents on the college and career readiness options available to students. CMCSS offers the Academies of CMCSS in all seven of the traditional high schools. Additionally, each high school offers options like dual enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), and Career Technical Education (CTE) courses.

CMCSS will offer two new programs: CMCSS at Nashville State Community College (NSCC) and CMCSS at Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT). Both of these programs will offer students hands-on learning experiences and opportunities to earn industry certifications while completing the necessary high school courses for graduation. CMCSS at NSCC will be offering certifications in both Early Childhood Education and Logistics. At CMCSS at TCAT, students can work towards certifications in Diesel Powered Equipment Technology, Industrial Maintenance and Electricity, Pharmacy Technician, and HVAC/Refrigeration.

In addition to the new programs, the Middle College at Austin Peay State University (APSU) has revised its program and will be offering two different pathways. The Transitional Middle College Pathway will be similar to the current Middle College program with some enhancements. The Associate Degree Pathway will allow students who complete their junior and senior years the opportunity to graduate with both a high school diploma and an APSU Associate Degree.

The meeting notes from each meeting are posted on the CMCSS website under the “Students and Parents” tab.

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