

CAC Notes

Greetings from the CAC Officers

Welcome to the 2003-2004 session of the Unit 5 Citizens Advisory Council. We are pleased that you have accepted the task of serving the Unit 5 community and look forward to working with you throughout the year.

As you are likely aware, Unit 5 faces an uncertain financial future and is actively seeking public input that will contribute to the fiscal planning process. As the "Turning Point 2004" district-wide theme suggests, the 2003-2004 school year will be characterized by critical choices that will ultimately shape the evolving complexion of Unit 5.

Continuing to function as a vital link between the Unit 5 community and the Board of Education, the CAC will be intimately involved in the Turning Point 2004 initiative. Serving as accessible points of contact, CAC members will participate in school or community based "Information Teams." Throughout the month of October, CAC facilitated Information Team meetings will be held at each attendance center and at several community locations as means of engaging individuals in financial brainstorming.

Although this admittedly demanding Information Team format is a departure from traditional CAC assignments, it provides the exciting opportunity for CAC members to directly interact with the school and community groups with which we are most closely connected. There is no question that this "hands-on" approach to fiscal planning will make a significant contribution to the Turning Point 2004 initiative.

Thank you for your commitment to the Citizens Advisory Council and Unit 5. We look forward to seeing you on the 17th!

Julia Turner
President

Meta Mickens-Baker
Vice President

Catherine Bean
Secretary



Agenda for September 17 CAC Meeting

Wednesday, September 17, 2003 ~ 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Fox Creek Elementary School (Directions on Page 2) ~ 3910 Fox Creek Rd., Bloomington

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Board Representative Comments
 - The 2003-2004 Session of the CAC
 - Turning Point 2004 Presentation
 - Unit 5 Finance 101
 - Introduction to Information Teams
 - Information Team Meetings in Action
 - Communication and Information Team Planning
- Please take the following steps to make our first meeting a success:*
- ⇒ Plan to be seated with your fellow school representatives or other at-large members.
 - ⇒ Bring your calendar to schedule future Information Team meetings.
 - ⇒ Come early to socialize.
 - ⇒ Remember that the meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.

"Free gift to everyone who attends this meeting."

**McLean County
Unit District
No. 5 Citizens
Advisory
Council**

**Volume 1, Issue 1
September 2003**

CAC Meeting Dates and Places ~ 2003-2004

- *Information Team Leader Training ~ 9/25/03 ~ 7:00-8:30 p.m. - Unit 5 District Office*
- *Information Team Meetings ~ 10/1-30/03 ~ 7:00-9:00 p.m. - Each Unit 5 Attendance Center*
- *Turning Point Report Synthesis-Stage 1 ~ 11/5/03 ~ 7:00-9:00 p.m. ~ Field Elementary School*
- *Turning Point Report Synthesis-Stage 2 ~ 11/13/03 ~ 7:00-9:00 p.m. ~ NCHS*
- *CAC General Membership Meeting ~ 1/21/04 ~ 7:00-9:00 p.m. ~ Parkside Elementary School*
- *CAC General Membership Meeting ~ 2/18/04 ~ 7:00-9:00 p.m. ~ Prairieland Elementary School*
- *CAC General Membership Meeting ~ 4/21/04 ~ 7:00-9:00 p.m. ~ Colene Hoose Elementary School*

CAC Meeting Minutes of March 19, 2003

The final general meeting for the 2002-2003 Citizens Advisory Council was held on March 19, 2003 at Normal Community West High School.

CAC President Steve Whittington called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Whittington introduced Dawn Green, assistant principal of NCWHS, who gave welcoming comments. The school was thanked for providing snacks.

Mr. Whittington began the meeting by thanking all third-year members for their work and commitment to the Citizens Advisory Council. It was indicated that the CAC members, the schools, and the community appreciated their efforts. Mr. Whittington also recognized Brenda Melcher and thanked her for her continual support of the CAC over the years and congratulated Brenda on her upcoming retirement.

Lois Morrow, CAC vice-president, led discussion of the proposed CAC constitutional changes. After discussion, motion and second, the constitutional changes were approved 26-11. CAC members also requested a prompt review of the status of the Diversity Advisory Committee as it relates to CAC membership. The outgoing and incoming officers pledged to work on this issue. The updated constitution will be available on the Unit 5 website in the (<http://www.unit5.org/cac/constitution.html>).

John Robertson, CAC secretary, reviewed the officer slate for the 2003-2004 CAC term. No new officer nominations were received and the officer slate was accepted by motion and second. The CAC membership completed voting, and the officers elected for 2003-2004 were: President - Julia Turner, Northpoint; Vice President - Meta Mickens-Baker, Glenn; Secretary - Catherine Bean, Brigham.

The Nominating Committee was thanked in addition to everyone who agreed to be nominated for officer duties.

Presentations on each of the six study topic areas followed:

- Grethe Armstrong presented the Curricular Committee findings and recommendations.
- Ellyce Wolfe and Sally Pyne presented the Co-Curricular Committee findings and recommendations.
- Scott Lay and Randy Schaab presented the Finance Committee findings and recommendations.
- Jim Pearson and Tony Ferrera presented the Facilities Committee findings and recommendations.
- Mary Jefferson and John Baldwin presented the Diversity Advisory Committee findings and recommendations.

All reports were accepted by vote of the CAC membership and will to be forwarded to the Board of Education for review. Formal presentation of all findings and recommendations to the Board of Education will occur at the April 9, 2003 board meeting.

Superintendent Dan Steska expressed his gratitude for the outstanding work done this year. He felt the work was of a type that would not be filed away, but would be used as a benchmark or checkpoint for years to come.

The CAC officers also extended their appreciation for work accomplished by the CAC this school year. It was felt that while the work was of a different type than in years past that it would have a lasting impact on Unit 5 and the community.

John Robertson
CAC Secretary

Unit 5 Board of Education

The Unit 5 Board of Education meets regularly on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 West Hovey Avenue, Normal. Board members are interested in hearing from the citizens they serve. If you have questions, ideas, or concerns, they encourage your letters and calls.

- Gail Ann Briggs - 112 Hunt Street, Towanda, IL 61776 - (309) 728-2187 - Email: briggsg@unit5.org
- Thomas Ellsworth - 210 Doud Drive, Normal, IL 61761 - (309) 452-2731 - Email: ellswortht@unit5.org
- Scott Lay - 3012 Providence Drive, Bloomington, IL 61704 - (309) 661-1122 - Email: lays@unit5.org
- William B. Mullins - 9065 N 1550 East Rd., Bloomington, IL 61704 - (309) 829-8326 - Email: mullinsw@unit5.org
- Martin L. O'Connor, J.D. - 131 Eastview Drive, Normal, IL 61761 - (309) 452-6302
- Richard B. Percy - 13 Worthington Ct., Bloomington, IL 61704 - (309) 662-1943 - Email: percyrb@unit5.org
- Steve Whittington - 2902 Park Ridge Rd., Bloomington, IL 61704 - (309) 662-3387 - Email: whittens@unit5.org

Directions to Fox Creek School/Other Info

- Take West Oakland Avenue in Bloomington to Fox Creek Rd. (Fox Creek Rd. is beyond Six Points Rd.) Turn right onto Fox Creek Rd. The school is about 1 mile beyond The Den Golf Course on the left side of Fox Creek Rd.
- Visit the Unit 5 website, www.unit5.org, to view the CAC Constitution and By-laws. A membership list will be distributed at the CAC meeting on the 17th.