

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 93-08

INTRODUCED: Mayor Eugene F. Kennedy

ENACTED : OCTOBER 12, 1993

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, education is critical to the future of Seat Pleasant's children, and

WHEREAS, the economic future of Seat Pleasant is dependent on developing a well educated population, and

WHEREAS, motivation problems and peer pressures discourage some students from taking advantage of their educational opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the City is concerned about students with academic problems and about the large number of at-risk youth living in Seat Pleasant, and

WHEREAS, lack of financial resources prevents some of our talented high school graduates from going on to college, and

WHEREAS, determined and creative efforts are needed to provide academic support to the children and youth of Seat Pleasant; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Seat Pleasant, Maryland that there is hereby established an EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

1. Overall role and responsibility. The Education Advisory Committee shall advise the City Council, Mayor, and Chief Administrative Officer on ways to assist students to succeed in their education and realize their potential.
2. Specific responsibilities. Specific Committee responsibilities include but are not limited to the following.
 - a. Recognition for academic achievement. Programs to encourage and recognize academic achievement, to include but not necessarily limited to academic excellence recognition for all elementary school students who have a grade-point average qualifying them for their school's Honor Roll. Such programs shall be constructed and promoted to counteract negative peer pressure, to motivate and encourage, and to create hope among students for their future.
 - b. Academic assistance programs. In cooperation with City staff:
 - (1) Monitor progress of Seat Pleasant children and youth in County middle and high schools, and develop local programs and/or resources for assisting students with their academic work. Particular attention shall be given to students defined as being "at risk."
 - (2) In cooperation with City staff, propose, monitor, and evaluate academic assistance programs in Seat Pleasant, including:
 - (a) Volunteer tutoring or other assistance in subjects with which students are having problems;

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- (b) Volunteer mentoring to assist students identified by the school system or the City as being "at risk;"
- (c) Measures to discourage youths from dropping out of school; and
- (d) Advisory assistance to parents who report problems faced by their children, or problems with their children's schools.

For purposes of this resolution, an at-risk youth shall be defined as a high school or middle school student (Grades 7-12) who is:

- Experiencing academic problems as reflected in high absenteeism, frequent failure to complete school work, grades below a 2.0 grade-point average for an academic year to date, significant decline in grade-point average from previous levels, learning disabilities, and/or other academic problems;
- Engaged in drug use, other criminal or delinquent activity, or gang activity.
- Intending to drop out of school, or fitting the profile of a potential school dropout.

c. Assistance in obtaining post-secondary education

- Establish and support scholarship programs to assist deserving high school graduates to further their education. This may be done through a local non-profit organization eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions.
- Provide or arrange guidance for students and parents in planning for college or other post-secondary education.

d. Developing community and external support

- Involve other Seat Pleasant residents, civic and other community organizations, and knowledgeable and concerned citizens from outside the City, in solutions to education problems.
- Develop training, academic support, recreation and other resources from County or other sources;
- Publicize available services, ongoing initiatives, and academic recognitions to the community, through the mass media, public information meetings, and other means.

e. Policy proposals. Make recommendations to the City Council on changes which the City might propose to the County school system for changes in education policy.

Specific proposals and other advice may be generated from within the Committee, respond to referrals from the Council or Mayor, or respond to proposals by the Chief Administrative Officer, or by individual citizens. The Committee shall be advisory only, and any decisions which commit the City to specific policies, actions, and/or expenditures are at the discretion of the City Council.

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Membership. The Educational Advisory Committee shall consist of no less than seven nor more than eleven voting members. All appointments and reappointments of voting members shall be made by the City Council. No voting member shall be made by the City Council. No voting member shall hold any appointive or elective position in the City government during the term of his/her appointment. One voting member shall be a high school student in good academic standing.

The City Council may designate up to three ex-officio members from within the City who have established expertise and concern for the education of young people. There shall be one ex-officio member each from the City staff, designated by the Chief Administrative Officer, and the City Council, designated by vote of the Council on a term or rotating basis, both of whom will serve in a liaison capacity.

Members shall include at least one voting Citizen from each Ward, appointed by each Ward Councilmember. At least one voting or ex-officio member each from the fields of elementary school education, secondary school education, college education, business, financial management, and publicity/advertising/sales.

A voting member may be removed from office for cause only, following a written statement of that cause voted by the City Council, or based on non-attendance at meetings or other non-conformance with City ordinances or written policies, or Committee bylaws.

Term of office. Each member shall be appointed for a term of three years; except that approximately 1/3 of the initial membership shall be appointed for one year, 1/3 for two years, and no less than 1/3 for three years, so that terms will be staggered. Vacancies shall be filled by the Council, within two months, for the remainder of the original term.

Officers. The Committee shall elect from among its voting members a Chairman, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and such other officers as it may choose to designate in the pursuit of its responsibilities as defined herein.

Subcommittees and special committees. In pursuing its specific responsibilities, the Committee may establish subcommittees of the board, or special committees consisting of committee members and other members of the community. The Committee is encouraged to develop working relationships with civic organizations, businesses, and individual citizens within and outside the City. Special committees which will raise and/or distribute funds require the approval of the City Council.


Meetings. The Committee shall meet at least six times yearly. It is assumed that much of the Committee's work will be accomplished between meetings, and that all members will participate, so that the work may be equitably shared. Meetings shall be scheduled in advance, and meeting notices and other meeting information shall be mailed or delivered to all members no less than three days prior to each meeting. All meetings shall be open to the public and announced to the public in advance, unless the meeting is called for an emergency purpose which does not permit advance notice.

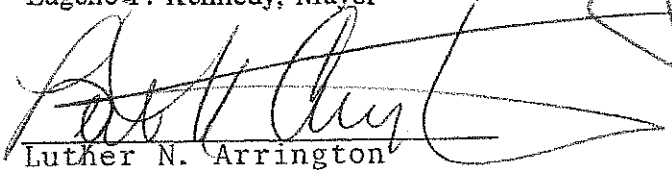
Rules of procedure. The Committee may adopt its own bylaws and amendments thereto. Its meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order or equivalent parliamentary procedure. Quorum shall be 1/3 of the current voting members, but not less than four.

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9. Reports. The Committee's reports shall be in writing to the Council, or to the Chief Administrative Officer. In addition, the Committee may request to discuss specified matters with the Council in a work session, and/or may address such matters at a Council meeting.
10. Records. The Secretary shall keep records of Committee proceedings, including Minutes of all meetings, copies of all Committee reports, and attendance of individual members at all meetings.
11. Administrative services and costs. The Committee may request and the Council may consider a budget for administrative and incidental costs of Committee operations. Copying and mailing of documents for Committee meetings shall be provided by the City. The Chief Administrative Officer or designee shall obtain for the Committee all services and supplies properly approved and which are within the Committee's appropriated funds.
12. Duration. The Committee is authorized for a period of three years, such period to commence on October 12, 1993 and end on September 30, 1996. At any time prior to that date, the City Council may re-authorize the Committee for a set period of years, merge the Committee's duties with those of one or more other committees, or otherwise amend the provisions of this Resolution.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Seat Pleasant, Maryland, October 12, 1993.


Eugene F. Kennedy, Mayor


Luther N. Arrington
President
City Council

ATTEST


Evalynne A. Nightengale, City Clerk

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