Advisory Committees: Recruiting and Sustaining Members

Dr. Lakshmi Mahadevan: For an advisory committee to be effective, particular attention needs to be paid to its members. Members of an advisory committee require a good representation of the community, employers, educational institutions, and parents.

Representative: Welcome, I’m campus principal, Albert Hernandez and I’m very happy that you all made the time to come here. I just want to preface all that they’re saying is that I feel very safe coming to work every day because I know if I have an emergency, I know I can always come to this class and all of it will be taken care of right away before the EMTs come. So I’m very happy to have all our kids here.

Representative: Good morning everybody. I’m Brandon Cline, the high school coordinator with Everest Institute. I’ve been working with Stony Point since 2008. It’s great to be here. Everest specializes in medical and dental, so we work very closely with a lot of health science departments across central Texas.

Representative: And I’m Susan von Rosenberg. And she just mentioned that I’m the pre-med teacher, and I teach anatomy, physiology, micro, and pathophysiology.

Representative: I’m Jessica Ozuna. I’m the assistant director for Career and Technical Education in the district.

Representative: I’m the assistant principal and supervisor for the CTE departments here at Stony Point.

Representative: Hi, I’m Suzy Tompkins. My son, Jordan Tompkins is part of the academy, and I was asked to come today as a parent to give ideas and listen.

Representative: Good morning, I’m Lauren. I’m the administrator for the EMS program here. And we teach EMR, Emergency Medical Responder, which also used to be called Emergency Care Attendant. We’re happy to be here to get a really good start this year.

Representative: I’m Leila Diaz, the assistant dean of admissions for the Texas A&M College of Medicine. We have campuses here in Round Rock just down the street. I’m in Temple, Ellison, Bryan, and Dallas. That’s our entire College of Medicine basis.

Representative: I’m Jim Mead with Walgreen’s Pharmacy. I help with coordination for the internships and externships for the Austin area including Round Rock as well.

Representative: And I’m Rachel, the academy specialist here at Stony Point.

Representative: I’m one of the health science teachers and I work with Ms. Kelly Tingle.
Representative: My name is Kevin Johnson and I’m also one of the health science teachers here at Stony Point High School.

Kelly Tingle: And I don’t think I actually ever introduced myself, but my name is Kelly Tingle, and I am also one of the instructors here in the health science academy.

As far as recruiting members, this is kind of our first year of really doing the advisory committee. So I have gone out, and students that we have already had internship with, I sought out their supervisors to come be on our advisory board. So we do have some members from Dell Children’s Hospital because we already had that connection there. So they were able to come as well as some members from Walgreen’s Pharmacy because we also do internships there. So a lot of the places where our students have already been, we try to pull those into our advisory committee because they are kind of aware of what we are doing. And if our students are well prepared or not, any holes that they might see in their knowledge, they can help with things they think we could improve on. Personal connections help, too. All of us that work here, there’s three of us, and we all have worked in the medical field before. So trying to pull in some of those connections sometimes works, sometimes doesn’t work. But all you can do is ask and they may say no or they may say yes. Then, sometimes I’ll just send out an email to a general organization to see if they might be interested in creating a partnership with us because a lot of times they don’t even know we exist. As you become a teacher, you start learning about more resources. Send out a feeler, you know, “Would you be interested in coming and assisting us?” More than likely, especially in the education area like Texas A&M, Texas State, and all of those have been really open to having people come and sit on our board. So that’s really helpful.

Well that’s probably going to be something that we look at as the years progress. In our first year, I just tried to really show our appreciation that we are so thankful that they’re there. We provide breakfast at the meetings. We’ve actually had our different board members offer to host, and they’ve provided the breakfast. So to me that shows that they’re wanting to be there as well. So we really appreciate that. Really just show your thanks, show the accomplishments that your students are making, and show that they are making an impact in our future.