

Future of dual-language program discussed

A magnet school is an option for the program, but not the only choice.

By Chessa DeCain and Vinayak Balasubramanian
Senior Writers

Although about 60 parents came to the special Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education meeting Tuesday night, few lasted through the lengthy work session.

After nearly four hours of discussion, the school board opened the floor to public comment.

Unlike the May 17 meeting, a number of speakers came out to show their support for the idea of expanding the Spanish dual-language program, though there was variance in how to do so exactly.

The board will vote at its regularly scheduled meeting on

June 7 on whether or not to turn Frank Porter Graham Elementary School into a magnet school.

School board members discussed the pros and cons of several different options for expanding the program, including the transition of either Carrboro Elementary School or Frank Porter Graham into a magnet school.

Some parents and board members wanted the dual-language program to be spread out among many schools in strands instead.

But Anne Tomalin, a high school teacher in the district, said she was opposed to that idea, as it would stretch teacher resources for the program too thinly.

Kris Castellano, a Chapel Hill parent, said parents shouldn't be concerned about redistricting that could occur with the transition of a neighborhood school into a magnet one.

"One door closes, but the other door opens," she said.

"This was a discussion we wanted you to have ... it's important that you get this thing right."

Kathy Irvin, parent of two children at Frank Porter Graham Elementary

Board member Mike Kelley said he was mostly concerned with increasing the capacity of and making the program available for every student in the district — something that is not currently an option.

Mia Day Burroughs, board chairwoman, said she wanted to transition Frank Porter Graham into a magnet school for the Spanish dual-language program, despite other plans discussed at the meeting and parental opposition.

Burroughs said having the program in one school would give the students in the dual-language program the most benefits.

Kathy Irvin, parent of two kids at Frank Porter Graham, said she was concerned the board did not

yet know the costs behind a dual-language magnet school.

She said she didn't want the board to make a hasty decision.

"It's important that you get this thing right," Irvin said.

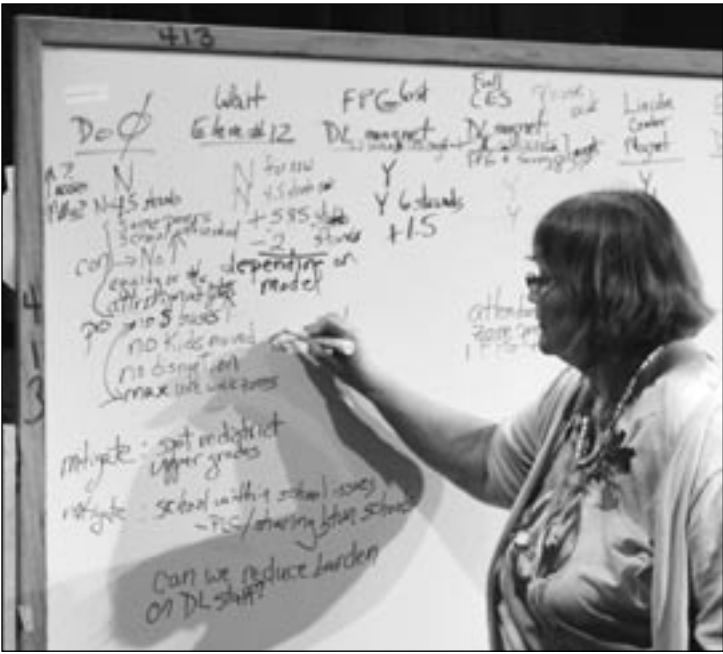
Irvin also said she was pleased with the board's transparency in their discussions at the meeting.

"This was a discussion we wanted you to have," she said.

Kelley said he hoped the board could find a solution everyone would accept.

"At the very least, everyone should be able to understand why the board makes the decision for the community," he said.

Contact the City Editor at city@dailytarheel.com.



DTH/MELISSA KEY

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education member Jamezetta Bedford lists the dual-language program solutions at the May 29 meeting.

TOURS AND TASTINGS



DTH/MELISSA KEY

Top of the Hill Distillery owner Scott Maitland is shown with the vodka and piedmont gin bottle prototypes inside the new distillery.

Top of the Hill's new distillery hosts tour for charity

By Lauren Kostenberger
Staff Writer

Scott Maitland is hoping to use the new Top of the Hill Distillery for more than just good-tasting liquor.

The distillery will host a private tour and tasting tonight, as part of a fundraiser with the Orange County Rape Crisis Center. As of Tuesday, tickets are still available.

Top of the Hill donated the private tour and tasting to the rape crisis center and allowed the center to sell tickets for it. About 20 to 30 people are expected to attend the fundraiser.

Maitland, who owns Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery, will lead a tour of the facility beginning at 6 p.m. Guests will be treated to a selection of vodkas and white whiskeys made in the distillery, along with Top of the Hill's beer and appetizers.

He said this is the second time the distillery has been opened to the public — the first being a tour for owners of local bars and restaurants in April.

"We're excited to reach out to the community in a way we don't normally get to, so I think it'll be a really fun event," said

DISTILLERY TOUR AND TASTING

Time: 6 p.m. - 11:45 p.m. Thursday

Ticket price: \$30 each or \$55 per couple

Location: Top of the Hill Distillery, 505c W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill

Info: www.ocrc.org

Alyson Culin, development and marketing director for the rape crisis center.

Culin said the center's relationship with Top of the Hill has given them the opportunity to reach out to people in the community on an individual level, rather than just raise a large amount of money.

Esteban McMahan, investor and salesperson at the distillery, said he has donated to the rape crisis center before and has been involved in their fundraisers, but is especially excited about this one.

"Top of the Hill has been heavily involved in many nonprofits in Chapel Hill and the area," he said.

McMahan said the high level of collaboration between Top of the Hill and the center is unusual for an event like this.

"Normally we would give them \$50 gift

certificates," he said. "It's interesting to give a tour."

The rape crisis center hopes to raise about \$500 from the fundraiser, which will go towards general programs and services.

Maitland said he was glad to be a part of the event.

"Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery has a long history of helping out local charitable organizations," he said. "The distillery wants to continue that tradition."

Maitland said they hope to ship their first products out in the next few weeks to North Carolina ABC stores and Franklin Street restaurants and bars.

Tickets are \$30 and are sold by the rape crisis center. Tickets can be purchased on their website, www.ocrc.org or by contacting Culin at 919-968-4647.

The rape crisis center offers a 24-hour crisis response line to rape victims, as well as support groups and individual therapy. An education team from the center also holds programs for youth and adults on how to recognize and prevent violence.

Contact the City Editor at city@thedailytarheel.com.

Movie explores bipolar disorder

"A Moment of Clarity" shares the experiences of painter Isti Kaldor.

By Alex Dixon
Arts Editor

Isti Kaldor wanted to be a doctor.

But after being diagnosed with bipolar disorder and breaking his back in a kayak accident, he began painting.

Director Kevin Cullen met Kaldor four years ago and decided to film a documentary about Kaldor's life, mental disorder and artwork.

Kaldor began painting shortly after his first manic episode while he was at UNC Hospitals.

"He started collecting his ketchup and other food, and he started painting with it," Cullen said.

Cullen also wants to use the film "A Moment of Clarity" to educate people about bipolar disorder.

"I've found that there's a huge misunderstanding of what bipolar disorder is," Cullen said. "And that's the reason why I thought that Isti's openness in speaking about it and me presenting the human side of the disorder would be most helpful."

Bebe Smith, co-director at the UNC Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health, said bipolar disorder is a mood disorder categorized by two different states, mania and depression. She said mania is a very elevated mood characterized by high energy, while depression is a low mood characterized by sadness and lack of interest.

Cullen said he believes bipolar disorder unlocked the creative potential in Kaldor's brain and that Kaldor's artwork is how he expresses his emotional energy.

"With Isti, whether he is up or down, his art is essential to maintaining any type of balance,"

FILM PREMIERE

Time: 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Location: Varsity Theatre, 123 E. Franklin St.

Info: www.amomentofclarity-movie.com

Cullen said.

Smith said that based on her experiences, it is possible for someone experiencing an extreme emotional state to tap into the creative parts of their brain.

The documentary was filmed in Chapel Hill, Kaldor's house in Durham and Boone, where Kaldor attended college at Appalachian State University.

Kaldor was diagnosed with bipolar disorder at 19 while he was a sophomore at Appalachian.

Julie Bailey, interim executive director of Mental Health America of the Triangle, said she raised three children with bipolar disorder and believes "A Moment of Clarity" can help normalize mental illness to viewers.

"With 25 percent of our country experiencing a mental health issue, that means everybody is impacted on one level or another," Bailey wrote in an email. "We can all learn from what Isti shares in this film."

The film premieres tonight at the Varsity Theatre on East Franklin Street at 6:30 p.m.

Cullen said he has watched many documentaries about mental disorders that are negative and rely on sympathy. He thinks "A Moment of Clarity" uses Kaldor's experiences to bring a positive outlook to being diagnosed with a mental disorder and does not leave the viewer feeling sorry for Kaldor.

"We want to show people that a mental disorder is not the end of your life," Cullen said.

Contact the Arts Editor at arts@dailytarheel.com.

inBRIEF

CAMPUS BRIEFS

UNC study: African-Americans sing to cope with stress

A study from UNC's School of Nursing found that older African Americans use religious songs to cope with stress. The study found evidence that older African Americans' mental health is connected to religious singing. Health care providers may use this study to improve communication with this demographic.

Jill Hamilton, assistant professor at the School of Nursing, led the study.

UNC archaeology professor receives Presidential award

Scott Madry, a research associate professor of archaeology at UNC, received one of the 2012 President's Volunteer Service Award. The annual award is given to individuals or groups with distinguished volunteer service and civic participation.

CITY BRIEFS

SunTrust Bank robbery suspect is a former UNC student

A man charged Tuesday with robbing a SunTrust Bank inside the Harris Teeter supermarket at 1800 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. is the former UNC student who was charged with robbing a SunTrust in Apex last November.

Gordon M. Goodwin, 22, of Chapel Hill has been charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

He was arrested Friday by Federal Bureau of Investigation Task Force members in Wake County. Goodwin is being held on \$200,000 bail in the Wake County Jail.

Goodwin was charged in November with robbing a SunTrust Bank inside the Kroger supermarket off U.S. Highway 64, in Apex. The information released by Chapel Hill police matches the student record information for Goodwin from UNC.

—From staff and wire reports

UNC-system funding may increase

Administrators are working in Raleigh to receive increased funds.

By Vinayak Balasubramanian
State & National Editor

UNC-system officials are hopeful that they might reclaim some state funding as lawmakers discuss budget revisions.

But legislators might not be able to provide for all the system's requests.

UNC administrators are working in Raleigh to gain more funding as the N.C. General Assembly revises the state's biennial budget, which was passed into law in June 2011 for the fiscal years 2011 through 2013. The state usually revisits its budget before the second fiscal year commences.

The UNC system requested more than \$216 million in additional funding from the state

in its March report on budget priorities.

But legislators are expected to vote on a budget that increases funding by \$10.5 million, Rep. Hugh Blackwell, R-Burke, said. The vote is expected to take place after press time and results will be posted online at <http://www.dailytarheel.com>.

Gov. Bev Perdue released a budget proposal in early May that provides \$140 million in additional funding to the UNC system, said Charles Perusse, vice president for finance at the UNC system.

Perusse, said most of the UNC-system Board of Governors' priorities are addressed in Perdue's proposal.

"We are certainly appreciative that Gov. Perdue's proposed budget acknowledges the importance of higher education and UNC to the state's future," Joni Worthington, spokeswoman for the system, wrote in an email.

Hannah Gage, chairwoman

of the UNC-system Board of Governors, said the legislature's proposed budget — which is currently being debated in the House — does not fund many of the board's priorities.

"It's hard to decipher what's going on with the House budget but on the surface, it appears that it does not fund our primary enrollment growth needs, nor all of our need based financial aid," Gage wrote in an email.

But Blackwell said it was not possible to increase funding by the amount proposed in Perdue's budget because it calls for a statewide tax hike.

"This is not the time to put more taxes on people," Blackwell said.

Perusse said by his calculations, the House budget proposal would decrease state appropriations to the UNC system by \$4 million.

But Blackwell said all the major reductions in the House's budget merely remove state funding from programs that

don't need it.

"Our cuts focus on programs that don't need taxpayer dollars so we can give more to programs that benefit students," Blackwell said.

Perusse said he did not anticipate any major changes to programs or tuition if funding is cut because tuition has been set for the 2012-13 year.

Worthington wrote in an email that the budget debate is ongoing.

"As the budget process unfolds in the weeks ahead, we will continue to work with legislative leaders in both chambers to build support for the boards' priorities," Worthington wrote.

Students from across the system are joining the debate in Raleigh.

"There is only so much more you can put on students," said UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President Will Leimenstoll.

Contact the State & National Editor at state@dailytarheel.com.