



OTIS A MASON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School Advisory Council Meeting- Media Center

Tuesday, January 17, 2017 3:30pm

Call to Order

T. Austin calls meeting to order. 3:36pm

Approve Agenda for meeting

T. Austin asks all to review the agenda for approval. Austin request motion to approve. Kobryn motions. Crupi seconds. All say Aye, motion approved.

Review and approve minutes from December 13, 2016 meeting

H. Bartlett ask all to look over minutes from December 13th for approval. Bartlett calls for motion to approve the minutes. Doer motions for approval, Porter seconds. All say aye, motion is approved.

Review and discuss SAC Needs Assessment Survey - finalize changes

T. Austin reviews discussion from previous meeting. Regarding the wording of specific questions on the Needs Assessment Survey. After committee discussion it was decided that some questions needed to be revised, these changes were written in pencil and these copies were passed out to members. All members reviewed these potential changes as H Bartlett read them aloud. Changes were made to questions 18, 30, 42.

Jessica Harris asked if we are going to pick the option that we prefer for question 42?

H Bartlett explains that the changes of the word “modality” in this question were to make the question less confusing. Harris states she agrees that Modality was confusing.

Sac member McManus states that she finds the wording could be improved in question 31. Suggests that we change 31 to “Please comment about a positive aspect and/or offer for improvement.

Vote and approve Survey Questions

H Bartlett calls for motion to approve changes to the SAC Needs Assessment Survey. Harris motions and Porter seconds. All say “Aye”. Motion approved.

Discuss incentives for survey – parents & students – possible PTO support

T Austin talks about how the district wants 20 % participation, but we would like higher participation. We are looking for ideas to encourage students to take home and return this survey. SAC will be giving these incentive items to teachers who can give it to the student as soon as they have it turned in. PTO would sponsor this, providing 4 gift cards for a raffle. These gift card would be for “family fun places.” (i.e Adventure Landing)

McManus asks, if a family has more than one child should you give a slip to each student to turn in? How can each child be rewarded? States that one option might be to put the students name on the back of a slip.

Kobryn responds stating that we can't put the student name on the survey, because that would keep the survey from being anonymous. Bartlett agrees, states that the student name would be going on a separate slip of paper and not on the survey.

Review and approve SAC Needs Assessment Staff Survey

No changes were necessary for the SAC Needs Assessment Staff Survey.

H Bartlett calls for motion to approve the SAC Needs Assessment Staff Survey. Harris motions and Porter seconds. All say "Aye". Motion approved.

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SIP: Discuss and review. Talk about timeline for the rest of the school year.

T Austin and H Bartlett discuss and review, SIP, stating that it is a plan with our goals as a school and how we plan to meet those. At our next meeting we will review I ready and D.E. data to find how close/far we are to reaching these goal. We will also begin reviewing out PIP, going through it step by step to decide and potential changes or revisions. We will do this review by breaking the larger document in smaller chunks for easier revision. This PARENT piece will be sent by email ahead of time so that members can have a chance to look it over prior to the meeting. The full document is on the school website if anyone would like to review this again.

Review and discuss meeting dates for the remainder of the year

Our dates were determined based off a schedule from the previous year, and it has since been noticed that we have a meeting date of February 14th, which is Valentine's Day. We can vote to keep or change this meeting date. Austin asks for a show of hands to see who would want to keep the date. No need to vote because everyone was in agreeance to keep the meeting date.

Financial Report

Teacher, Laura Strauss submitted a request for funds to purchase a DRA kit for grades K, 2, and 3. Pillay will meet with Strauss to see if the DRA kit could be purchased using other school funds. The cost per kit is \$422. Committee discusses whether this would be a good use of funds, would "ALL students" benefit from this purchase. Committee discussion about the usefulness of these kits and how they can benefit each student. The school will know if we are able to purchase these kits with other funding around Wednesday January 25, so we MAY have a vote at our next meeting to either approve or deny this purchase request.

Question from Cathy Weber- Is this a consumable or reusable material? T Austin explains that DRA kits are a reusable material that teachers share, and are used over and over for many years.

Harris adds to the discussion stating that if this purchase was decided on and approved then our current balance of 4832.87 cents, same amount as our last meeting, would leave SAC with around \$3,500 in the SAC fund.

Principal Updates - Nigel Pillay

This year we joined in with other elementary schools in the south of the county to create both boys and girls basketball teams. This week played Crookshank at Sebastian Middle; the girl's team won, and the boys lost to 15 points. It was great to

see the boys go out and compete and how well they reacted during both difficult and good times. We are scheduled to play 6 or 7 games this season. During March there will be a tournament. We are playing Southwoods tomorrow, at the Walter E Harris community center in Hastings. Due to a timing conflict we had to change from our original location of Pedro Menendez. Another company has stepped in and helped fund the purchase of uniforms for both teams, so all the students have matching jerseys and shorts.

Update on Free and reduced lunch. Our first report this year showed that 48% of our students are receiving free and reduced lunch. Our most recent report has bumped up to 49%. It is good to know we are maintaining our title one status, but sad to know that students and families are continuing to struggle with low income.

Kindergarten registration dates are set in place. If you will be having a kindergartener, or if you know someone, communication will be made soon about the dates to begin that registration. One date every month through the remainder of the school year will be put in place for registering students.

As a district we currently use DE (Discovery Education) as an assessment piece to determine student growth. The understanding is that next year we will not be using that anymore and the district will be moving to IREADY. This is the program that we have started using this year, so we are feeling very positive that we will have a comfortable transition from DE to I ready.

Other transitions- Otis Mason has had a change in administration, Natalie Gitto is our new Assistant Principal. Natalie has really hit the ground running, and has worked hard to quickly settle into her role here at Mason. Donna Gary-Donovan is now at First Coast Technical College where is able to show the wealth of knowledge she has in the area she is working in. She will surely flourish in her new position.

Leslie Bendt is our new media specialist. She and Dr. Pillay worked together previously at Pedro Menendez, she just left Patriate Oaks to take on this position. She is very open-minded and always has an open door. Any suggestions, feel free to reach out to Leslie. Many volunteers were consistent with helping with shelving books, laminating, and we have had a drop in volunteers in this area. If you or anyone you know can help out please come lend a hand.

T Austin asks: Has IREADY officially replaced DE?

As far as Nigel understands that is the direction the district will be going for our growth assessment. There are many schools piloting the program now to help in determining its usefulness.

Wanda- Can you let us know tomorrow exactly where the game will be played.
Pillay- Yes, I will find out for sure, but it should be at the Harris Center. If this isn't a feasible option the game will be rescheduled.

New Business

T Austin asks for members to present any news.

McManus speaks for PTO- Tomorrow night at 5:30 will be our next PTO meeting. 5th grade teacher Ms. Allen's class brought in the most box tops for the second quarter, congrats to her class! We have earned \$1,640.00 from our participation in the box tops program. This nine weeks we are at \$315.00 earned already!

Great Clips just off Wildwood Dr. will be a sponsoring haircuts for students and staff on Jan 28th and 29th. The next PTO spirit night will be held at Chic-Fil-A on April 20th. Cold cow spirit night in the works, more news to come on that soon! PTO is planning Spring Fling for April, more info to come at a later date.

Adjourn

H Bartlett requests a motions to end meeting at 4:17. Member W. English calls for a motion. McManus seconds the motions. All say aye, motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

32. Homework is assigned to provide necessary review and application of previously learned skills and standards.

18. I feel like my student's unique learning style is being met by my student's teacher.