

McFatter Technical College and Technical High School
School Advisory Council
December 13, 2018 Meeting

Attended by: Dora Casanova, Stacy Casson, Nathan Champagne, Cara Daniel, Cyd Dixson, Emily Fernandez, Karelys Gonzalez, Lillie Henry, Rachel Howlett, Jeanette Johnson, Christi Laguna, Tina Leon, Ashley Marte, Sheldon McCartney, Ayse McLaughlin, Gordon Merle, Isabel Moncada, Cara Pasquale, Gloria Raymond, Ashley Rivera, Mary Romanski, Annmarie Schiano, Gisele Silva, Miles Wasser, Christina Williams and Ashley Woods.

Excused: Ellen Albano, Roger Barnhart, Giselle Bayona, Carla Clifton, Jackson Com Kuang, Brian Cunningham, Juan Figueroa, Lynn Goldman, Rafael Gonzalez, Joan Kovac, Anju Mahmood, Danielle McColgin, Maria Medina, Kendrah Mincey and David Wood.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gordon Merle at 11:55am.

Self- introductions were made.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes to the November 8, 2018 meeting. (Romanski/Casson).

Old Business:

A+ Fund Proposal Update: Jeanette Johnson stated that the staff voted on proposal number #1, which was “All contracted staff and the School Resource Officer, who worked at McFatter for a semester and one day during the 2017-2018 school year share the A+ Funds equally”. Our payroll designee put the information into the system and calculated that the total that each staff member will receive, prior to taxes, will be \$296. They will receive this money in their next paycheck.

COE Update: Rachel Howlett reported on behalf of Ellen Albano. McFatter has been re-accredited by COE for the full 6 years. Therefore, we are re-accredited until 2024.

Winter Scholarship Report: Rachel Howlett reported on behalf of Lynn Goldman. There was a total of \$6,000 that was available to be awarded this go around. We had 11 eligible scholarship applications and each of those applicants received money. Two received \$750 and nine received \$500. Jeanette will be notifying the applicants via e-mail today.

Foundation Update: Rachel Howlett reported on behalf of Lynn Goldman. As of now we have a few sponsors, restaurants and donors that will be contributing to this year’s event. The sponsors include Breakthrough Beverage (Wine), Big Kahuna (\$10,000), Sand Castle (\$5,000), Starfish (\$2,000), Sunglasses (\$1,000) from Burlington English, Focus School Software, Memorial Healthcare and Waste Management; Seashell (\$500) from Bright Star Credit Union, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Broward County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Chuck Puleri/Herff Jones, Education Essentials, Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, JDL Technologies, The Family of Dr. William T. McFatter, Omni Advertising and Total Wine. The restaurants/caterers include ATC, MTC, STC’s Culinary Departments, Café Seville, Flashback Diner, S & J Catering and Totally Bananas. The donors include Butterfly World, Coopers Hawk, Little’s Photography & Frame Studio and Otterbox.

New Business:

School Accountability/School Improvement fund expenditures: Jeanette Johnson explained that the school has a pot of money available that the SAC committee decides how to spend this money as long as the expenditure of the funds in support of our School Improvement Plan (SIP). Cara Daniel stated that when it comes to school improvement in Broward County there’s a certain accountability areas we must have in there. One of those

areas deals with what we are going to do as a school to improve our overall student performance. Within the SIP itself we've listed different items, but one directly ties to additional support and tutoring to our high school students via our afterschool FAST tutoring program. During these tutoring sessions we have several teacher's here and we provide a light dinner for the students in attendance, which is usually pizza from Papa Johns. If this committee decides to approve these funds it will be used to offset the cost of what we pay for the salaries of the teacher's that tutor, as well as some of the cost for the food. Jeanette is asking the committee for a request of authorization to use some of these funds. The account currently has \$24,000 and she is requesting this committee to consider using \$12,000 at this time to support tutoring. We usually spend about \$20,000 - \$25,000 a year on tutoring cost for staff on all subject areas. This would cover approximately half of that cost. The other half will come from our regular budget. Jeanette asked if the committee would approve this proposal. Stacy Casson asked how well attended is the FAST tutoring program. Cara Daniel stated that we have around 125 or more students attend on different nights. Cara deferred to the student leaders in the room. Nathan Champagne explained that the total amount of students fluctuates over time. They usually have about 150 students that sign up for the FAST tutoring program. Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept this proposal (McCartney/Casson).

Industry Certification Update: Jeanette Johnson explained that industry credentials are industry specific credentials that students can earn in their various technical programs. The state recognizes certain specific credentials as very high demand because that job market is very high demand. The state has an incentive program in place that compensates schools for post secondary (PS) students and our high school dually enrolled students that are enrolled in a technical program who have earned credentials in their areas of study. The 3 technical colleges are able to use those funds for a couple of things. One thing we use them for is to pay for our high school students to take their test for free. The second being an incentive program in place for our PS students. If students pay to take a test and they pass it, they are then eligible for reimbursement from the school. The third thing that the money is used for is for additional materials and supplies for the technical programs. Broward County (the 3 technical colleges combined) for the third year in a row had the highest number of credentials awarded in the entire state among PS technical schools. Last year Broward students earned 856 credentials between the 3 technical colleges, which totaled to \$646,309. The 3 technical colleges will split the money equally. McFatter will get 1/3 of that money, which is about \$210,000.

Reports:

School Advisory Forum: Stacy Casson reported that at the last South Area Advisory forum the strategic initiative was reviewed. The 3 year SIP strategy is posted on their PTSA website. They've had positive outcomes from the SIP's and the feedback that they receive from parents. On December 1st an Ed Talk forum occurred, which happened after their last PTSA meeting. She was not able to attend. The community comes together at these forums and they talk about education strategies and goals. Report cards went out. They had a discussion on homework policy and how it is written. The committee has a concern on the language being vague. The security highlights from the SAFE Havens review are changing all analog camera to digital cameras, they will have the ability to put schools on lockdown from the central system, updating the intercom systems, and having guardians; which is when a school does not have the resources to have an SRO. These guardians wear yellow shirts, carry a gun and do not have the ability to arrest. The Broward Library offers tutoring on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for students. They will need to have a library card in order to attend.

PTSA: Rafael Gonzalez was not in attendance. Stacy Casson reported in his absence. As an organization they continue to look for ways to educate their parents and students. They would like any suggestions on anything that the parents would be interested in discussing.

Student Government Association: Emily Fernandez stated that the primary event they had this month was the food drive. They collected a total of 7-8 boxes that they dropped off at Western High School. Tomorrow they

will be having a Holiday sendoff where they will serve Apple Cider and cookies to welcome the New Year. They will have a hopes and dreams board where students can write their resolutions and hopes for 2019. The first 2 weeks after Winter Break they will be having a s'mores fundraiser. They will be selling the s'mores for 2 for \$1.

Class of 2019: Ashley Marte, Class President, reported that starting in January they will be inviting Kona Ice to every student appreciation to fundraise for their class. They'll also be attempting for them to come during adult lunch so that they can maximize their efforts. On January 15th they will be having a Cap and Gown assembly where Herff Jones will explain the package prices in detail. From January 30th – February 14th they will be selling chocolate rose grams for Valentine's Day where students can send messages to other students for \$1. In the month of January they will be setting up a link for individuals to donate online for whoever wants to provide them with any contributions.

Class of 2020: Nathan Champagne, Class President, reported that they held a Chipotle night on November 27th, which did not raise any money. They are currently having a McFatter ornament sale that they will be selling until the end of next week for \$2 each. They are also doing holiday gift wrapping until December 17th. They will be starting their prom committee initiative in January.

Class of 2021: Miles Wasser, Class President, stated that last month they had a candy sale that went fairly well. Upcoming they will have a pre-sale for their class shirts, which will be plain white t-shirts that they students can tie-dye.

Class of 2022: Ashley Rivera, Class President, reported that they contributed to the Thanksgiving food drive and their class donated 200 items. They finished their first fundraiser, which was a popcorn fundraiser. They made \$895 profit with a total of \$1,800 within 2 weeks. Currently they are participating in a winter food drive. So far they've donated 120 items. They have many more fundraising events coming up.

Post-secondary student reports: Gisele Silva, ESOL student, reported that she asked other students what they think of our ESOL program. Some of their comments were that the program is an incredible benefit because they have a high quality class every day, they are able to study at school and online, every class they explore different content. The last comment was that the ESOL class helps them express themselves and talk about their life stories. Isabel Moncada, Medical Assisting student, reported that they just finished the Phlebotomy and EKG courses. They will be starting clinical assisting next. They will be learning how to get rooms together, take vitals and what they would be experiencing in the real world.

Security: Officer Christi Laguna reported that there have been 2 incidents recently on our campus. Jeanette sent an e-mail to all staff on November 29th regarding the first incident. There was a fight in the parking lot between two of our adult students. Office Laguna, campus security and Davie PD were all involved with this incident. During the altercation one of the students was both verbally and physically abusive to the other student and threatened to harm other classmates. The student he was arguing with chose not to press charges. However, as a school we have withdrawn the aggressor from school and he has been issued a trespassing warning banning him from campus. Law enforcement is fully informed and is investigating the matter as well. This incident was showed on the news that night. Office Laguna stated that after further investigation she and the Davie PD detective were able to prove that the student did not sign the affidavit to press charges because he feared retaliation and that's how they were able to make an arrest. They did a risk protection order to remove any firearms that he had. Officer Laguna mentioned that the news made it seem like there was a weapon on campus, but there was not. Jeanette reported that she sent an e-mail to all staff today regarding the second incident, which occurred last Thursday. They received an anonymous tip that an adult student had a gun in his vehicle while he (the student) was in class. They investigated immediately and the student was fully cooperative and acknowledged that an unloaded gun was in his vehicle. The student did not have access to his vehicle and law

enforcement was present during the search to ensure that the investigation could take place with no danger or threat to the campus. The student was expelled from school. The case has been referred by the police to the state attorney for their review. McFatter Administration and law enforcement were fully confident that there was never any danger to anyone on campus during this investigation. Jeanette stated that in the state of Florida on any K-12 campus or any technical college that is operated by a K-12 school system, guns may not be present anywhere on the campus even if an adult student legally has a concealed carry weapon. They are not allowed to bring it on campus or have it in their car. In this incident, this student did not realize he could not have his gun in his car because he thought our school operated as a regular adult PS school would, which is not the case. The student had the unloaded weapon with him because he had an appointment after school at a shooting range. Officer Laguna stated that this is still an open case, so there is not much more she can add regarding this incident. She reiterated that she did not feel like this was a threat to our campus. Gordon Merle asked if there's a code of conduct that the students/parents need to read and sign off on. Jeanette told him that yes, there is and every student has to sign at the beginning of their program. Stacy Casson asked if there are any plans to put signage at the gates to state that weapons are not allowed on campus. Jeanette said that we want to look into this, especially after this incident. Jeanette asked the students in the room if they feel safe at McFatter and all of them said that they do.

Member comments: **Jeanette Johnson** announced that graduation this year will be held on May 30th at 2:00pm at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Jeanette also announced that Ellen Albano, Assistant Director, and Rachel Howlett, SAC secretary, will be leaving McFatter on December 21st. Ellen will be retiring and Rachel will be relocating. With them leaving, Cara Daniel will be moving into Ellen Albano's position as post secondary Assistant Director and Mary Romanski will be moving into Rachel Howlett's position as post secondary Administrative Secretary. Darryl Harris, our Business Education Department Chair will be moving into the High School Assistant Director position. We are currently trying to fill his secretary position.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn at 12:45pm (Howlett/Romanski)

Submitted by:
Rachel Howlett