**Tuesday, September 11, 2018**

**Walter C. Young Middle School**

**School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes**

1. Welcome. Meeting called to order at 4:06pm by Madelyn Doval. Ms. Doval welcomed all in attendance to the first SAC meeting of the school year. A quorum was met.

1. Roll Call to Establish Quorum – Timothy Arwine, Grisel Berrios, Marques Brown, Ena Castellanos, Madelyn Doval, Graciela Forte, Joel Jean-Jules, Charles King, Ericca Maddox, Rachel Malca, Ximena Menendez, Jason Oestreicher, Harold Osborn, Dory Spector, Milisa Villanueva, and Christopher Yetter. Guests included Morgan Whitney Mullins, Ben L. Reeves, Elizabeth Austin, Jennifer Mandat, Jemima McPhesson, Susan Kinkaid, and Marcela Mansur.
2. Approval of May minutes – Ms. Doval gave those in attendance a few minutes to look over the SAC Minutes from the May meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Spector to approve the May minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Villanueva and Mr. Oestreicher.
3. SAC Membership Voting – Ms. Doval introduced those in attendance to the new members, and gave introductions for those returning to SAC membership. The new teachers interested in joining SAC included: Mr. Christopher Yetter, SAC Co-Chair, Ms. Morgan Whitney Mullins (Science 6th grade teacher), and Ms. Jennifer Mandat (Science 6th and 8th grade teacher). The new parents interested in SAC membership included Ms. Elizabeth Austin (whose daughter is gifted), Ms. Ena Castellanos, Ms. Ericca Maddox, Ms. Rachel Malca, and Mr. Timothy Arwine (I-Zone Representative). The rest of the SAC committee consisted of: Joel Jean-Jules (Math teacher), Mr. Ben Reeves (new Assistant Principal for 8th grade), Mr. Marques Brown (secretary), Ms. Dory Spector (Science teacher), Ms. Melisa Villanueva (Language Arts teacher), Mr. Charles King (BTU Representative), Ms. Grisel Berrios (Science and STEM), Ms. Ximena Menendez and Ms. Susan Kinkaid.

Ms. Doval stated that, for membership voting, parents vote for parents, and teachers vote for teachers. A motion was made to vote Ms. Mullin, Ms. Mandat, and Mr. Yetter to SAC counsel. Mr. King motioned first, and was seconded by Ms. Doval, Ms. Berrios and Mr. Jean-Jules to vote the new teachers into membership. A motion was then made to vote in the parents, Ms. Elizabeth Austin, and Ms. Castellanos. It was first motioned by Ms. Malca, and seconded by Mr. Arwine and Ms. Maddox to induct the new parents into SAC membership.

1. WCY School Survey Results – Ms. Doval went over the school parent survey results from the 2017-2018 school year. The surveys were handed out to students, staff and parents, but Ms. Doval only wanted to address the parent survey. The surveys are done and administered every year. Out of under 1,100 students, there were only 98 parent responses to the surveys last year, equating to roughly 10% of expected responses. The Broward County School’s District distributed the survey and made it available only on online. Walter C. Young previously had more success with a paper based survey. Ms. Doval stressed the importance of the survey. Mr. Reeves stated that at his previous school, they allowed students to take pictures of the last signature page of the survey and turn it in as an incentive, if parents were unable to access the survey. Mr. Osborn and Ms. Doval agreed that this may be a good idea for the future. Surveys were geared towards certain topics and areas, such as Purpose and Direction, Governance and Leadership, Teaching and Assessing for Learning, Resources and Support Systems, and Using Results for Continuous Improvement. Mr. Osborn stated that the school likes to look at the highest and lowest areas of response. For instance, in the Teaching and Assessing for Learning section, the fourth comment, “All of my child’s teachers meet his/her learning needs by individualizing instruction,” received some of the lowest “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” responses. Walter C. Young will conduct another survey in the spring, to which Ms. Doval asked the SAC members for assistance with promotion for the parent survey.
2. A+ Recognition Funds Ballot – At each table was placed a sample ballot for the A+ Recognition funds. There is an A Ballot and a B Ballot. The SAC committee is to view the ballot and decide whether it suffices for distribution. The ballot will then go to the staff at Walter C. Young via email. The staff will be given three days to look at the ballots. The ballot will then be voted on in the SAC October meeting. The ballot is only for viewing purposes at the September 2018 meeting. The difference between the two ballots is that Ballot B has “and who remained at the school for 2017-2018 (with the exception of retirees)”, which means those who decided to transfer to another school will not be able to receive the A+ Funds. Comparatively, Ballot A includes all, including those who transferred. According to Mr. Osborn and Ms. Doval, Ballot A was used last year. Ms. Doval asked if there were any questions or concerns concerning both ballots. Mr. King suggested that Ballot B should not include the transfers. Mr. Osborn said that many schools use that caveat, stating that the school, Walter C. Young, has the luxury of recruitment. Ms. Villanueva asked if the A+ money will be distributed earlier this year to which Ms. Doval affirmed that that was the reason she chose to present the ballots earlier. Ms. Doval held a vote for the ballots. Those in favor for ballot A included Ms. Menendez, Ms. Maddox, Ms. Austin, Ms. Malca, Mr. Arwine, Ms. Mandat, Mr. Jean-Jules, Ms. Berrios, Mr. King, Ms. Mullins, Ms. Spector, Mr. Oestreicher, Ms. Villanueva, Mr. Yetter, and Ms. Castellanos. Those in favor for Ballot B was Mr. Osborn. A motion was made to accept the ballot. Mr. King and Ms. Barrios motioned first, and were seconded by Ms. Malca, and Mr. Jean-Jules, while Mr. Yetter made a second motion to accept Ballot A as the ballot for the A+ Recognition Funds.
3. Hero Software – Mr. Osborn addressed the committee in regard to the Hero software. The Hero software has been used by Walter C. Young for three years now. It is an internet based database to keep track of dress code and badge violations. Student names are entered into Hero, and paper violations are printed out to be taken home to parents. The software also tracks excused and unexcused tardies. The consequences are progressive up to six violations. The Hero software also tracks how many violations any given student is on. A quote was handed out for $4,410 for the Hero program. The renewal is for 10/19/2018 – 10/18/2019. Mr. Osborn informed the SAC members that there is $5,555 currently in Accountability Funds, and that he was currently unaware of the amount of available A+ Funds. Mr. Jean-Jules asked whether it tracked morning tardies as well, to which Mr. Osborn said yes. The software tracks tardiness as a whole, not just in the morning. After 5 days tardy, students get a BTIP letter and a social worker comes out to the home. After 10 days, families are taken to court. The system picks up whether students are tardy in the first period. Most morning tardies are just late parents from drop offs, per Mr. Osborn. A motion was made to approve the Hero software from the Accountability Funds. Ms. Malca motioned first, and was seconded by Ms. Villanueva, Mr. Yetter, Ms. Spector, Ms. Mullins, and Mr. Arwine to approve the purchase of the Hero software from the Accountability Funds for $4,410.
4. Principal’s Report – Mr. Osborn discussed the ending of last year, with regard to monitoring data and the improvement plans. Walter C. Young is an A school, to which Mr. Osborn thanked the staff and the parents for their efforts. Mr. Osborn gave out a handout of Walter C. Young’s Report Card, detailing how the school earned an A with a total of 578 points, and a 64%. Mr. Osborn declared that he only compared Walter C. Young to other regular, public middle schools (not charter or private). Walter C. Young placed #7 in the entire district, compared to last year’s placement of #9. Ms. Villanueva asked how many regular, public schools there are in Broward County. Per Mr. Osborn there are about 37 or 39 other regular, public middle schools. Mr. Yetter asked if the other schools on the list were also Title I schools as well. Mr. Osborn stated that none of them are.

Broward County voted yes for a new property tax for teachers, school security and student mental health care. Mr. Osborn passed out a snippet of a recent news article detailing the breakdown of the property tax, going over key points with the SAC members. Mr. Osborn hopes that the district will hire more School Resource Officers with the new funds.

The Student Assessment & Research 2018-2019 Districtwide Testing Calendar was given to each SAC member in attendance. Testing for 6th grad students, ELA and Math, will be paper based this year. The 7th grade writing test, which will be given out about a month or two earlier this school year, will be computer based. Science tests, such as the Science Standards Assessment, will continue to be paper based. Mr. King was concerned if the writing that is done on the computer is based on the assumption that the average student is able to type on the computer at a certain rate that will allow them to successfully take the test. Ms. Villanueva asserted that they use the computers for practice tests and writing assessments. Ms. Doval also said that the language arts teachers also teach the tools the students need in order to be successful. Ms. McPheason expressed concern in regard to the loss of penmanship of the students, and stated she did not prefer writing exams to be on the computer. Mr. Osborn, Ms. Villanueva and Ms. Doval affirmed that the computer based testing is due to the technological advanced world we currently live in, and will prepare students for future college applications, job hunting, etc. Mr. Jean-Jules questioned if Walter C. Young would do the BSA due to it being optional. Mr. Osborn indicated that the BSA would be taken by Walter C. Young this school year, as it served as a great indicator of future student scoring.

Another handout, the Proposed Calendar options for 2019-2020, was looked over by the SAC members. Option 1 includes a planning day after spring break before the students return. Option 2 does not include a day. Option 1 also include an earlier start of Wednesday, August 14, 2019, while Option 2 has a starting date of Monday, August 19, 2019. Ms. Villanueva asked who votes on the calendars. Mr. Osborn replied that the school board ultimately decides which calendar is chosen, but they take suggestions. Mr. King questioned why there has to be different start dates every year.

1. For the Good of the Group – A motion was made by Ms. Doval to adjourn the meeting, which was first supported by Ms. Villanueva and seconded by Mr. King to end the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:09pm.

**SAC Meeting Dates for 2018-2019 School Year are 9/11, 10/9, 12/11, 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, and 5/14.**