**Apollo Middle School**

***“Unleash Your Inner Superhero”***

**School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting 2016-2017**

**Minutes**

 **November 2, 2016 6:00PM**

**Ms. Shawn Aycock, Principal**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by co-chair Shazia Bajwa.

Bajwa said the September meeting was postponed because of Hurricane Matthew.

 Co-chair Bajwa asked those in attendance to accept the minutes from the previous meeting.

Ms. Martin made a motion to accept the minutes with changes. Richard Peppin, seconded.

Ms. WB gave an Update on the School Improvement Plan by Ms. She said the School Advisory Council document was updated. She said in last month’s newsletter, an article explaining how to find the plan on the school’s website was included and the FSA scores, as well the parent involvement information.

She said the CLT is changing the way curriculum is delivered based on the data for last year’s assessment. Each department had to come up with how they are going to integrate technology into the classroom.

She said that there has been some revision for the Title 1 night. In January, the school will have 2 Title 1 nights. Teacher Daniel Pigan may be the lead speaker on the information night about technology. In March, the Title 1 night will accompany the reading night which is usually during October.

Bajwa shared the Stakeholder Feedback Data Document with those in attendance.

Principal Report: Ms. Aycock said the school is “very busy exposing the students to different opportunities. The most recent was a trip to the Museum. Fifty students visited the Space Museum, lunch was provided. In an upcoming event, 7th grade students will be going Kennedy Space Center free of charge. Mr. Small’s class visited the Nova Southeast University Museum. She said students from every team were taken on the trip and the staff from the museum complimented the exemplary students’ behavior during the trip

Teachers Pigan and Sparks took their students to the Storm Center. Again, compliments were given on the behavior of the students and the questions that were asked of facilitators.

About 200 students went to the Star War concert at Parker Place House.

She said more field trips are being planned including one to the Nutcracker performance. She said one of the goals of the school is too expose the students to opportunities they may not otherwise see. She said most of the trips are done at little to no cost to the students. Some pay as little as $2.50 to attend events.

She said in soccer the team went to District finals and lost to Falcon Cove Middle School.

She said the district recently participated in SACS accreditation visit. Apollo was one of the schools selected to be visited by the accreditation committee. She said the visit resulted in the district getting/keeping their accreditation. She said a Superintendent from Alabama was part of the committee that visited. Her district has a student population of 2,500 – Apollo has more than 1,200 students on its campus. This Superintendent was collecting artifacts to take home and share with her staff.

PSAT89 is being considered for 8th grade students. She said Naviance is a new program being purchased by the district. The program will help guide students through the arduous task of preparing for college and career planning. Of the 1,279 students at Apollo only 11 have not signed in. They track the students as they log into the site and help them develop a career plan. The students can be track from Kindergarten to 12th grade. Eighth-grade teachers will be doing lessons with the Social studies students.

There is an opportunity for the 8th grade to take the PSAT89, a 2.5-hour test. Charter school are currently using the tests; and have already given. The district set January as a tentative date. This is not a test that would disturb the learning environment, Ms. Aycock said. After getting result, students are directed to the lessons on KAHN Academy to remediate skills in LA and Math. The PSAT will also help prepare students for the upcoming FSA. Ms. Aycock said if results come in before the FSA is given the scores could be beneficial to our students. For students going to McArthur, Mr. LaPace already gave the test to the 9th graders, and progression in growth will be tracked. She said taking the PSAT will assist students in becoming successful at the FSA; and be prepared for future college testing. Reading passages are very rigorous and if calibrated to Kahn academy it would be beneficial to the kids.

Ms. Aycock said the district has rolled out the SMART money and recently delivered $100,000 to the school for band equipment. The next distribution will be for school computers. In the next few days, computers will be ordered for a deployment in January. In March and May, the school anticipates all new wiring, ports etc., being ready for students to use. Ms. Aycock said Apollo’s students have been raised with technology and the new technology and infrastructure will be wonderful for the students’ success.

Apollo’s SEL is part of a pilot program for the district. Ms. Aycock said to help with the SEL program at Apollo the PTSA is donating funds for the Health and Wellness room. It is understood that many of the students are living in dysfunctional situations and some have hormone level spikes that they are not equipped handle. The Wellness Room will be staffed with counselors who will help students to regulate. One example of the need is students witnessing a recent shooting at Checkers. One of the students was related to the victim. “Our students are seeing this,” Aycock said. Dysregulation is a technique used to get them to where they don’t disturb everybody else in the classroom. The are taught to calm themselves. Ms. Aycock said Officer Graziani has placed Disney vilans on the wall near her desk in the Wellness Room. She said there is also a seating area and hero wall, and she will be available if students want to go to her office to talk to her. There will also be sports, music, video games, and a therapy pet. Hollywood Police Chief Sanchez said he supports Graziani, who is the Therapy Dog’s partner.

Ms. Aycock said with the help of School Board Member Ann Murray Apollo should have a therapy dog on campus within a year. Officer Graziani is the owner of the dog and will assist when students are in need of love and care. Ms. Aycock said the Wellness Room should be operational by January. She said someone even donated an Xbox. The program will give students 10 to 15 minutes to calm themselves, get a time out, get reorganized and get back to class.

PTA President Marsh the recent fundraiser brought in twice the amount brought in last year. “The PTSA fundraiser was a success,.” she said. The gifts for top sellers are in and ready to give away, she said. Marsh said a parent link will be sent for the upcoming General Meeting. Marsh said eighth-grade student Brian Peppin is the representative to the PTSA for Apollo. There are 6th and 7th grade student reps.

Gifted Advisory is having a Magnet and Innovative Schools event of Nov. 16 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at McArthur High School.

She said the event will give the parents an opportunity to look at magnet programs and innovating schools in Broward County.. She said last year, 300 parents attended. All grades are welcome. Parents and students are encouraged to travel from booth to booth to learn more about schools in the county. Last year, the event was held at Piper High School.

There is also a Parent Involvement Forum on Nov. 19 at Fort Lauderdale High School from 8 a.m.to 12 p.m.

Ms. WB said the SAC Committee’s parent involvement plan must be updated by Dec. 18. She said the 2017 plan is available online on Apollo’s website.

In other business, Ms. Aycock said the school is currently operating two websites as it waits for the district to activate the school’s new website. She said she understands the problems that can arise from juggling two sites. Her desire as the administration is to be transparent which includes a monthly school newsletter and the health inspector’s report of the school.

Ms. Aycock said she expects a good turn-out at the Honor Roll. However, she asked that parents check with their student to see if they’ve received an invitation – last year some parents attended and their students were not Honor Roll recipients. Additionally, each teacher will sign for invitation so they will not be any mix ups. The signing by teachers will ensure that students who are suppose do get invitations are getting them. “I need to make sure the parents know their students are getting As and Bs,” Aycock said. Marsh said parents are still having issues with Pinnacle. Aycock said parents can ask for Pinnacle to email grades once a week.

There will also be Pizza and Ice Cream Sundaes in the afternoon during the Honor Roll event. The tentative date should be known by Nov. 4, she said.

Upcoming Events

Harvest Drive: Apollo needs five donations of $35 to give Publix cards to families. McArthur is distributing the cards. No alcohol can be purchase with the card.

Aycock said a memo will be coming out from SGA advisor Ms. Seely about the collection of items. The last day to donate is Nov 10. McArthur will be the dissemination point. There will also be bags of groceries given away. The SGA at both schools are working together.

In other business, Ms. Clark said Kids in Distress may be one of the possibilities for a service project for LSE.

Ms. Bajwa read the list of Students of Character.

In addition, the Glee Club is being overseen by Mr. McCall, the AMS Band Teacher. The Rights of Passage is also hard at work with boys on campus and with homework.

In unfinished business, SAC’s Blaze Pizza fundraiser brought in $19 dollars. Ms. Clarks said she will be contacting McDonald’s on 441 and Taft for another fundraiser. She said SAC is considering doing a World’s Finest Chocolate fundraiser to raise enough money for a new marquee for the front of the school. A dress down day is also being discussed.

Last week, parents began a letter campaign, and sent out letters to local businesses asking for support. Possible partners are the Boulevard Heights Homeowners and Driftwood Heights Homeowners, Mr. Pippin said.

Someone also mentioned selling birthday announcement for $1 and a Bowling fundraiser at the AMF on Taft and University to raise funds for the marquee.

Student Brian Pippen suggested having an early release day fundraiser. His father said if it was done he’d donate the pizza for the event.

At 7:21, Ms. Prescott motioned for an adjournment. Ms. Suganya seconded.