SAC Meeting Minutes February 12, 2019

SAC Members Present:

Tracie Casserly

Niti Chabra

Donna Cooper

Alyce Culpepper

Christine Henschel

Shyanne Michel

Nereida Miller

Madeline Rosario Colon

Neslon Rose

Marsha Samuels

Jodi Swirsky

SAC Guests Present:

Kristen North

Cindy O’Brien

Helen Boyer

Ms. Casserly called the SAC meeting to order at 3:15 pm in the SPHS Media Center. The January SAC meeting minutes were disseminated. Ms. Casserly moved that we approve the January SAC minutes. Dr. Culpepper seconded the motion. All were in favor, the November minutes were approved.

Ms. Casserly updated SAC on the balance in our SAC Accountability Fund. We now have $35,393.15.

Mr. Rivas requested SAC Accountability funding to pay for tutoring in the Social Studies department. He requested funding for 40 hours, 20 hours for US History EOC tutoring, and 20 hours for FSA ELA tutoring. Funding was requested for 40 hours X $30 per hour = $1200. Dr. Culpepper moved that we vote on approving $1200 for Social Studies department tutoring. Ms. Casserly seconded the motion. An oral vote was taken. All SAC members present voted “yes”, the motion passed.

Mr. Rivas also requested funding for an online program called Albert.io. Albert is an online program that provides practice for every AP course, as well as for the SAT and ACT. The program’s cost is based on the number of students you purchase the program for. 300 students cost $3300. 400 students cost $4200. 500 students cost $5,000. Beyond 500 students, the price is $10 per student. SAC discussed the online program and asked Mr. Rivas how many AP teachers have committed to using Albert. Mr. Rivas was not sure, but he will come back to the March SAC meeting with that information. SAC was concerned with such a high cost for only 500 students to be able to access the program. The vote for this online program Albert was tabled until the March SAC meeting.

Ms. Casserly presented a request from Mr. Acierno for SAC Accountability funding to pay for another round of ACT tutoring. The ACT tutoring will start in mid. March and go through mid. April. Funding was requested for 18 hours X $30 per hour = $540 total. Ms. Casserly moved that we vote on approving $540 for another round of ACT tutoring. Ms. Swirsky seconded the motion. An oral vote was taken. All SAC members present voted “yes”, the motion passed.

Ms. Casserly requested funding for 50 more EOC calculators. We need 50 more of the TI30-XA scientific calculators for our Algebra and Geometry EOC testing in May. The quote for these 50 calculators is for $9.00 each plus $18.00 shipping, for a total quote of $468.00. Ms. Casserly moved that we approved funding for these 50 calculators in the amount of $468. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. An oral vote was taken. All SAC members present voted “yes”, the motion passed.

Ms. Casserly updated SAC on the new waiver for Professional Study Days. A faculty vote took place on January 30 and the faculty voted 82% in favor of the new waiver, with the majority voting for 7 PSD days. SPHS will have 7 PSD days in the 2019/2020 school year. SAC reviewed the SIP, and Ms. Casserly shared that there would be another SIP training on March 1.

Nominations for SAC Employee of the Month:

1. Nominated by Ms. Cantlupe - I would like to nominate Holly Desmarias.  She has captured the attention and love of the students by engaging them in high interest and relevant activities.  She has written and received a grant to start the tiny house project. Her students recently presented their design plan at the Climate Change Summit.  Holly has attended several professional developments, most currently the Cambridge Environmental Management training.  She is an asset to our Magnet program and SPHS!
2. Nominated by Dr. Culpepper- Fran Holmes has been a wonderful addition to the South Plantation academic success over the last 22 years ('86-'88, and '99 to present). Many students are afraid of math... all levels... but especially the top level classes: Statistics and Calculus. She helps students achieve success in these areas and expanded the program over the years by adding Calculus AB and BC. Her sense of humor along with her unique teaching style encouraged to students to attempt and then earn top scores on AP exams. These classes were one of the reasons top academic students applied for and were accepted into the magnet program. I observed her class and was impressed with how she answered students’ questions without putting them down because she had just explained the very answer.

SAC voted to name Ms. Holmes the February SAC Employee of the Month.

In new business, Dr. Culpepper asked who was retiring this school year. Ms. Henschel stated that we have 6 teachers retiring: Ms. Holmes, Ms. Butler, Mr. Holt, Ms. Vogt, Ms. McNeile, and Mr. Molaka. Dr. Culpepper suggested having one big retirement dinner/celebration, rather than 6 separate ones. Ms. Chabra and Ms. Miller said the fun squad could assist in the planning of this.

The SAC meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

The SAF meeting following the SAC meeting.

After the SAF meeting, there was a Project Charter Meeting, presented by CBRE / Heery, to give updates on the SMART bond projects completed as well as projects still planned for SPHS.