Minutes for October 5, 2016 SAC Meeting

Welcome/Introduction

Mrs. Beitz welcomed everyone and asked that the minutes from the September 14, 2016 meeting be reviewed. A motion was made by Mrs. Cordoves to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Mrs. Shvawn Baker. The motion was put to a vote and it passed unanimously.

**Mrs. Nissen.** Working on SIP tweeting the goals and the accountability monies to be allocated.  Departments are following our PLC plans monitoring student performance and proficiency. Accreditation review will be Monday October 24. Mr. Micensky and Mrs. Nissen will be attending a meeting that will orient us to what we need to be prepared for.

**Departments Head:**

**Social Studies/Civics-** **6th grade** is finishing up Egypt and the Israelites. **7th grade** Civics is working on Chapter 5, Students are completing the chapter on the Constitution with a test scheduled for Tuesday. Standards are: Identify the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation that led to the Constitution, Interpret the intentions of the Preamble to the Constitution, Explain the viewpoints of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists and the inclusion of a bill of rights, Describe how the Constitution limits the powers of government through separation of powers and checks and balances. Chapters 4, 5 & 6 are the first cycle in Civics after which we will see where students need remediation and/or enrichment. **8th grade** is wrapping up a unit about the 13 colonies.    They have Ms. Calle speaking to all the students about **Naviance** (college & career).  Also students are getting ready to start on a Unit for the JA Curriculum. All students in all grades are also working on their Social Studies History Fair Projects.

**Media- Mrs. Dillmeier**- PENDING

**ESOL- Ms. Franco-**The ESOL students have been working very hard learning new vocabulary and multiple meaning words by reading and analyzing the folktale Coyote.   This folktale also included a lot of imagery and required the students to learn about their 5 senses and how important visualization and creating mental pictures are to their reading comprehension.  The students are continuing to study rhyme, stanzas and imagery through poetry.  With the start of Autumn We recently read and analyzed a poem “What Can You Do in the Fall?”   Fall is also a multiple meaning word which can often be quite difficult for the ESOL students to understand.  We are currently working toward completing our first care cycle in which we have covered multiple meaning words throughout many different curriculum.   We are getting very close to being able to start our CANA program of after school tutoring for the ESOL students. There will be training for the tutoring teachers. Then the next step is to send out parent notification letters and to set up the classes.

**MATH-Mrs. Cordoves-** Our 6th grade Regular Math students have been working on four Number Sense standards. Students are learning how to find the Absolute Value and opposite of a number. They also learned how to find the Greatest common factor of a pair of numbers and how they can use that number to help them solve real-world problems. Students have taken their first cycle post-test. 80% of our 6th grade regular math students showed a mastery score of 70% or higher on these standards. The school average for those classes was 77%. Our 6th grade Advanced Students have learned all of the standards covered by our regular classes as well as a standard covering operations with Rational Numbers. They have also completed their first post-test. 98% of the Advanced 6th grade students have shown mastery of these standards. The school average score was 91%. 7th graders have been working on seven different standards on the Number Sense category. Their main focus has been on Operations with integers and rational numbers. Most classes have not completed this cycle of study, however they are making great progress. Seventy-nine percent of the students who completed the post-test in the regular math classes have obtained mastery. More information should be available during our next meeting.

**Science- Mrs. Swinerton**- Grade-level PLCs are in the process of administering CFAs for the first instructional which in all three grades covers the Nature of Science. Hurricane Matthew may delay the completion of the cycle but data on this first cycle will be available by the next SAC meeting. Eighth grade teachers have instituted Flashback Fridays. The intent of these sessions is to help students prepare for the 2016-2017 SSA (Science Standards Assessment). Teachers will use assessment data from sixth and seventh grade benchmark tests to determine areas that may require additional emphasis. The Flashback Friday sessions will begins with sixth grade standards and move forward to seventh grade assessments. Dr. Merilyn Johnson, Curriculum Director for Science, and Kenyatta McKie met with our eighth grade teachers on September 14th here at Tequesta Trace. The intent of the session was to provide effective instructional techniques. What occurred was a mutual exchange of effective instructional techniques. Dr. Johnson and Ms. McKie declared that our eighth grade teachers were doing “all of the right things” to effectively deliver and review the standards on the SSA. Four science teachers representing all three grade levels attended the Broward County Gifted Symposium along with Mr. Micensky and other Tequesta Trace teachers. Our science teachers attended sessions on Differentiation, the Socratic Seminar method, Global Learning, and the development of human impact activities.

**ESE- Mrs. Winter-** In ESE news the SVE classes continue to plan their Special Olympics practices to prepare for the main event in December. They are also planning a field trip to the Museum of Discovery and Science and are excited to see Cinderella in November with the Advanced Drama class.  Support Facilitators are reviewing accommodations for our mainstreamed students and are presenting this at the next NESS meeting later this month. Reading strategies and Best Practices for reading assistance for our ESE students are also being reviewed.

**Electives- Mrs. Sikorski-** Advanced Drama is feverishly working on material for their District Festival, held on December 9 and 10 at American Heritage in Plantation.  Students will be participating in performance and technical events covering all aspects of theatre, as well as putting on a completely student-driven one act play.  They are adjudicated by local theatre professionals.  Stay tuned for preview performances at the next SAC meeting!  In Art:The artwork displayed here today is from Mrs. Libby’s art class.  Also, two of her students received 1st place for their School Lunch Poster Contest.  There posters were sent to the Food and Nutrition Services Dept. for county judging.7th grade- Sophia Cheng, 8th grade Sharlie Nova. In Peer Counseling – We are starting our Disabilities/Abilities Posters that will be displayed around the school. Showing famous people that have disabilities, but highlighting their Abilities. Also, the end of this month is Red Ribbon Week and the peer counselors will be setting up dress up days to celebrate. In Debate – My students are in the process of presenting an original oratory that is a 10 minute memorized speech. Fantastic to watch my students gain self-confidence and present in front of the class.

**Literacy- Mrs. Manning-** (Read by Dr. Lobeto)-As reported at our last meeting, all students in grades 6-8 have participated in the monitoring of reading and writing skills. Using the recent Florida Assessment for Instruction in Reading (FAIR) results, we are able to capture the percentage of students by grade level that have a 15% or lower chance of success on the end-of-year assessment. In schoolwide summaries, 14% of our 6th graders, 3% of our 7th graders, and 4% of our 8th graders are predicted to be at high risk and need supplemental or intensive instruction in reading. For those students that fall into this category, parent letters will be sent home by next Friday with explanations of student weaknesses and ideas for helping at home. Here at Tequesta, these students are enrolled in specific programs to provide intensive instruction in reading. We will progress monitor this specific group again in the December to January date range. This data is reflective of the most recent FSA scores which was used for student placement, and we have added an additional 6th grade Intensive Reading class along with 2 more sections of 6th grade Critical Thinking classes that focus on students that may be at risk for reading success. Teachers will continue to provide differentiated instruction, and we have an addition to the ELA department to add more support for our ELL students. Betty Giraldo is now a valuable team member and is able to provide “push-in” support during language arts and reading classes to any ELL students that need small group or 1:1 instruction. Data also indicates that 38% if our 6th graders, 56% of our 7th graders, and 40% of our 8th graders are predicted to have an 85% or higher chance of success on the end-of-year assessment. One of the new programs that our students have access to this year is Vocabulary.com. This site combines algorithms with games in which students can earn points, achievements, and badges competing against friends and classmates while gaining the gift of vocabulary. Most of our ELA classrooms are using this program on a regular basis. Currently, Tequesta Trace ranks #8 in Florida middle and elementary and 16th for all schools in Florida for the month of September! Tequesta Trace students and teachers learned 10,322 vocabulary words in September. October 1st started the year-wide Vocabulary Bowl. As of right now, we are 129th in the nation and 24th in the state of Florida. All of the ELA Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are completing their first instructional cycle with the emphasis on the ELA category of “Key Ideas and Details” in which students read closely, cite textual evidence, analyze central ideas and themes, and summarize. They are also including “Craft and Structure” lessons which focus on meanings of words and phrases.

**SAF- Mrs. Shvawn Baker**- A meeting was held on September 22, 2016. The main topic was the 2017-2018 School Calendar options. Option #1 will have the teachers starting on 8/9/17 and school starting on 8/16/17. Last day would be June 2, 2018. Option #2 will have the teachers reporting to work on August 14, 2017 with first day of school on August 21, 2017. Last day for teachers would be June 7, 2018. The Anti-Bullying policy was discussed and also Cyber-Bullying.

**PTA- Mrs. Valent-** Mrs. Valent gave us some calendar dates: October 14- 6th Grade Dance, October 15th –TTMS Panther Night as well as the deadline for Boxtops and the Bookfair will take place the week of October 17, 2016.

**BTU- Mrs. Passman-** Working on SIP tweeting the goals and the accountability monies to be allocated.  Departments are following our PLC plans monitoring student performance and proficiency. Accreditation review will be Monday October 24. Mr. Micensky and Mrs. Nissen will be attending a meeting that will orient us to what we need to be prepared for.

Mr. Micensky asked everyone to pay close attention to the TV and radios due to Hurricane Matthew and urge all to be safe.

Meeting was adjourned.