

SAC Minutes for Friday October 12, 2018

Call to Order-8:25 a.m.

Approval of September 2018 Minutes

- Motion to approve: Mrs. Tephford-Rush
- Second Motion: Mrs. Stratos
- All approve

SAC Composition and Vote-Mrs. Niebla

- Our SAC membership has two components that needs to be represented:
 1. School demographic- we meet all our school demographic criteria with the exception of male to female ratio; otherwise, we are in the correct percentage points.
 2. Required representatives that we need to have as a part of SAC and presentation of the slate nomination from PTO:
 - BTU Steward-Jennifer Stratos
 - PTO Rep-Pamela Miller
 - I Zone Rep-Stefanie Tephford-Rush
 - Business Rep-Michael Goldberg
 - SAF Designees-Elisha Johnson
 - ESOL Rep-Carol Hylton
 - ESE Rep-Megan Mila
 - Gifted Rep-Dana Gaines
 - Non-Instructional Rep-Latanya Fondren

Approval of SAC Representatives

- Motion to approve: Mrs. Tephford-Rush
- Second Motion: Mrs. Johnson
- All approve

Approval of SAC By-Laws

- Motion to approve: Mrs. Tephford-Rush
- Second Motion: Mrs. Johnson
- All approve

Review of SIP and Approval: Mrs. Collie

- Best Practice #1
 - PLC (Professional Learning Communities)
 - Teachers meet by subject and grade level in their PLC in order to plan collaboratively by making sure their lessons are aligned to the Florida State Standards.

- Teachers are to measure all students' success and address remediation and enrichment throughout the school year.
- Best Practice #2 Addresses the following:
 - Early Warning Indicators
 - Response to Intervention (RTI) Team addresses all of our students' academic and behavior needs on a tiered system.
 - Tier 1: all of the students at our school are receiving Tier 1 Interventions from teachers in the classroom and school wide initiatives. For example, Start with Hello week, where all of our students were allowed to participate in various activities throughout the week.
- MTSS/RTI Action Plan
 - If students have academic needs beyond Tier 1 because they are struggling, then those specific students will be addressed at the Tier 2 or Tier 3 level.
 - We have our RTI and MTSS (Multi-Tier System of Support) Team that meets weekly to discuss those students who fall in the Tier 2 and Tier 3 category. The RTI and MTSS Team includes the administrators, guidance counselors, school social worker, school psychologist and ESE Support Facilitator.
- School Wide Positive Behavior Plan
 - The District downloads our DMS (Discipline Matrix System) data.
 - If a student gets a referral, it goes to an administrator to be logged into DMS. Referrals are used for specific data analysis. The area we had the most infractions were for disruptive and unruly behavior in the classroom at 42 referrals. Based on this data we created a SMART Goal to decrease the amount of referrals for this behavior. We started looking at positive strategies that can be implemented school wide to decrease the number of referrals by 30 percent.
- Attendance Plan
 - The attendance plan is also on a Tier System level; the data is downloaded for analysis. We are specifically looking at students who are on Tier 2 and Tier 3 by getting involved with that particular student in order to support students' attendance at school.
- School Counseling Plan
 - We have domains in place to address all of our students' personal, academics and social needs. We are making connections with their education beyond the classroom by preparing them for the real world.
- Social/Emotional Learning Plan
 - Our school has a priority for all staff to address our students' social and emotional needs. This year we have several programs in place to help address students' social and emotional needs. We have several initiatives such as Conscience Discipline, Mind and Body Medicine, Start with Hello Week, and Wolf Pack Wednesdays.

- Best Practice #3
 - FACE (Family and Community Engagement) Plan
 - This plan includes strategies to increase community involvement and it addresses the need of the community by making sure we keep an open line of communication between the school and the community.
 - Mrs. James holds the Community Liaison position that Mr. Bianchi created at the school this year. Mrs. James manages our social media website, communicates engagement activities, produces parent newsletters, coordinates and communicates announcements in order to keep all of our stakeholders informed.

- Best Practice #4
 - Goals, Strategies and Activities or FLDOE SIP
 - We are focusing on literacy school wide by making sure we have strategies that address literacy for all content areas.
 - We are making sure we target students in our lowest quartile by having different plans in place.
 - We are using Achieve 3000 in the Intensive Reading classes to make sure we are moving those students, addressing their lexile levels, and reading comprehension needs.
 - We are also using USA Test Prep across content areas.

Approval of SIP Plan

- Motion to approve: Mrs. Tephford-Rush
- Second Motion: Mrs. Johnson
- All approve

Current Budget-Accountability Funds: \$12,667.78

- Funding Request-Ms. Todd and Mr. Gordon (Band)
 - At the end of last school year the band was invited to present their curriculum and instructional strategies at the National Association for Music Educators National Conference in Dallas, Texas. This is a national convention where Westglades Middle School's band will be represented across the country. Students who will be attending the presentation will be exposed to our unique and successful approach to student motivation and achievement.
 - The main goal for the band program is to be one of the top performing band programs in the nation. The fund request is for travel expenses and registration fee.
 - This conference is for band, chorus and orchestra and it is consistent with School Improvement Plan Goal
 - The funding request is for \$500 per person total \$1000 to cover conference expenditures.

Approval of Funding Request

- Motion to approve: Mrs. Tephford-Rush
- Second Motion: Mr. Goldberg
- All approve

A+ Ballot:

- We received an “A” letter score 2017-2018 school year
- SAC’s responsibility is to create the ballot and then it is presented to the staff.
- Our union representatives will present the ballot for the staff to vote.
- Ballot must contain at least two options and one of the options must be “none of the above”
- If the vote does not receive majority then SAC must create a new ballot.
- After the staff votes, we will report the results to SAC
- Previous ballot example:
 - 2017-2018 School Year A+ Funds Vote Ballot Options:
 - Option 1: Even split of A+ Funds for all faculty and staff working 50% of more of the 2016-2017 school year.
 - Option 2: None of the above
- Proposed ballot for 2018-2019
 - 2018-2019 School Year A+ Funds Vote Ballot Options:
 - Option 1: Even split of A+ Funds for all faculty and staff working 50% of more of the 2017-2018 school year.
 - Option 2: None of the above
- Mr. Bianchi will verify all the numbers to make sure that no one retired before 50%.

Approval of A+ Ballot

- Motion to approve: Mrs. Tephford-Rush
- Second Motion: Mr. Goldberg
- All approve

Project Manager SMART Bond-Marleine Ghaby

- Reschedule in November, Marleine could not attend
- Mr. Bianchi gave a brief description on the Project Manager SMART Bond:
 - We are getting \$1000,000 SMART Bond money this 2018-2019 school year, the information and the process will be presented to SAC. There will be two ballots-the voting will be done by the parents, which will be one ballot per student as well as registered volunteers and school staff. The bond cannot be used on consumable items for example, papers or light bulbs for projectors.
 - Some examples that other schools have purchased are electric marquee for in front of the school, technology items, sound systems, indoor or outdoor furniture and other big items.

- From our school's perspective, it is better to purchase the larger items because each item that is for \$300 or more has to be tracked on campus for invoice.
- After talking with Mr. Haneski, who oversees our technology; we have looked at the need for technology school wide.
- We looked at how many laptop carts we have currently with our teachers. We have ten carts that are five years old, which will eventually become obsolete soon. Therefore, we have shared our initial plans to our department heads. We are asking our department heads to share these ideas and to do a needs assessment with their departments.
- One of our plans is to replace at least five of the old laptop carts. We would take the best computers from the five old laptop carts, as well as adding new batteries to the computers, creating five useable carts to last longer.
- We would then purchase five new carts to replace five of the ten old laptop carts, therefore having five refurbish carts and five new-purchased carts.
- Then we would add five more laptop carts, because there are some teachers in different subject areas that are in need of a laptop cart.
- By adding five additional laptop carts, we would have every Science, Language Arts and Civics teacher with a cart, which are all testing subjects. Our 8th grade Social Studies and Spanish teachers would be the only teachers without a cart. The 8th grade Social Studies teachers share the iPad Carts.
- We would also purchase new projectors because they are also becoming obsolete.
- We would add or take away from the initial plan after evaluating the needs assessment with the department heads. We would also evaluate how the school can contribute to some of the cost as well.
- The department heads like the idea of the electric marquee for in front of the school. The electric marquee is estimating around \$30,000-\$40,000.
- The next time we meet, Ms. Ghaby will review more details with SAC.
- When it comes to voting time, there will be two ballots: up to \$85,000 of the money will be on both ballots. Therefore, the technology aspect of the money can be on both ballots and the remaining items can make up the \$15,000 balance.
- Mr. Bianchi advised parents he would like to be as conservative as possible with the SMART Bond money and will discuss these ideas further with leadership and department heads in order to address the needs of the school.

School Update-Mr. Bianchi

- Athletic Programs:
 - Our Boys and Girls Soccer Team won the Division this year. Our girls went to Semi-finale for the District and lost 1-0 to Falcon Cove.
 - We had nine students that qualified for District Golf Championship, which is extremely good because many other schools may only have one student that qualifies. We had five boys and four girls that qualified for District Golf Championship.
- We received the Five Star School Award and Golden School Award, which are prestigious programs that highlight schools that show evidence of excellence in community outreach and involvement. We were 1 of 34 schools in the District to receive the Five Star Award in Broward County. Mrs. Collie, Mrs. Alvarez and Mr. LaRosa helped put everything together. It was very nice for our school to be recognized for this award, because we do a lot in the community. We also have a lot of involvement from the community that supports our school.

Safety

- We added ten new cameras over the summer and will be adding eight more cameras that are analytic. Analytic Cameras detect motion, which will help monitor certain areas around campus. For example, these analytic cameras can tell if someone is jumping over a fence. If anyone trespassed after school hours, these cameras would notify school officials of anything that is out of the ordinary.
- We added ballistic protection over the last few weeks.
- Our intercoms have been adjusted and the ones that were not working properly have been repaired.
- We had two staff members that did very amazing things last week:
 - In our Environmental Science Class, a student was bleeding and the teacher was able to use the tourniquet on the student's leg to help stop the bleeding until the paramedics arrived.
 - We had another student who was in class, choking on a piece of candy and the teacher gave him the Heimlich Maneuver and removed the piece of candy from his throat.
 - We have an amazing staff at Westglades that are doing fantastic things daily.

Rachel's Challenge

- We were under the impression that the presenters of Rachel's Challenge would be able to exclude a part of the presentation, which showed footage of the Columbine shooting. There were about 8 minutes of the footage. The presenter stated that they would not exclude that footage so **administration has decided NOT to have the presentation scheduled for Wednesday, October 17th** and was given a full refund on the program. A note will go home to the parents next week. We will have another school wide presentation that contains a similar positive message very soon.

Incidents on Campus

- There is a lot of negativity in social media that is directed at schools in Broward County at this time. We have an amazing staff who do right by our students each day, and we need to highlight the positives to drown out the negative voices.
- There is a lot of fear and anxiety stemming from last school year. We knew that we needed to put social and emotional programs in place to help our students learn how to cope with different emotions and feelings this school year moving forward. We put these programs in place so our students would know that Westglades is a safe place. There are resources and staff on campus to help our students in order to provide them with different coping strategies. We have been doing professional development over the summer with our staff in order for them to learn different strategies to bring the same message back to the students. During Wolfpack Wednesdays, our teachers will be doing social and emotional activities at the beginning of every class. We had our Peace Week following Start with Hello Week; we still have more initiatives to implement school wide towards our social and emotional learning.
- SAC members proceed with group discussion regarding parents' reactions on social media and ways to help our students deal with negative and positive behaviors.
- We are trying as a school to put programs in place to detour negative behavior.
- One or two incidents on campus do not define our school; all the students that were involved live in the community. The students received consequences and will receive counseling when they return to school.
- We advised our students on what to do when conflict arises and asked them not to wait until it builds up to high. They are to tell an adult or their parents as soon as possible. We reiterated those points at all the grade level lunches and advised students on how to report things in the future. As a community, we need to work together and try to make things more positive.

Parent Concern:

- Why does the District require the school to have someone at the gate at all times when there is already a buzzer in place at the front door? Mr. Bianchi addressed that we had several Campus Monitors, the most recent one resigned on the spot without telling anyone. Campus Monitoring positions are hard to fill for various reasons.
- Building curriculum around social emotional learning and the negativity with social media. The parent suggested using literature and tailoring it to middle school in order to incorporate lessons that would have a great impact on students learning the positive of See Something Say Something. Mr. Bianchi agreed with the idea and advised the parent that he will look into it.
- Parent concerned that social media is being used to negatively impact school. This is upsetting to the parent, because we have fantastic teachers at Westglades.

- Update on February 14th -we are brainstorming activities for that week with our mental health experts on campus such as: our social worker, guidance counselor, psychologist and family therapist. We want to provide student led activities throughout that week. We will work with our clubs and schedule certain days to do positive activities that week. On February 14th, we will plan a day of service, providing opportunities for our students to do things in the community and for others. We are still exploring ideas from the community to see what project we will have our students work on that day.

Mrs. Rioux raised concern regarding documentary that would be coming out about the Stoneman Douglas, February 14th incident. Mr. Bianchi is asking parents to stay vigilant about what our kids are watching and posting online.

New Business: None

Next Meeting November 9, 2018

Adjourned: at 9:20a.m.

SAC Meeting Dates for 2018-2019 year-meetings will be starting at 8:15 a.m.

Meetings will be followed up with SAF and PTO meetings on the same day

- Oct. 12
- Nov. 9
- Dec. 14
- Jan. 11
- Feb. 8
- March 8
- April 12
- May 10