

SAC Agenda for Friday, December 15, 2017

- **Call to order: 8:10 AM**
- **Review and approval of November 2017 Minutes**

Motion to approve: Mr. Allison

Second: Mrs. Tephford-Rush

All approve

- **SIP/Accountability Funds -- \$5,527.50 (classroom) and \$4,108 (teachers)**

--This is the new total after last month's funding requests have been fulfilled.

- **Department Update:**

--Social Studies – Mr. Cantlupe

-In Social Studies, all grade levels focus on power standards.

-In American History, teachers are moving at a fast pace; 8th grade teachers cover the revolution, the western expansion, the road to the Civil War, and so on.

-In Civics, 7th graders have a 98% passing rate on the EOC – 1st in the district; students cover the Amendments; soon students will be taking the next CFA, etc.

-In 6th grade, the focus is on ancient civilizations; students have to meet 76 standards; it includes much discussion of government throughout civilization in preparation for the next year.

--Science – Mrs. Arriola

-In Science, students focus on facts.

-In 6th grade, students are studying space; they are collecting data; teachers analyze the data by putting them into practice; and students study other Earth science concepts.

-In 7th grade, students are studying cells, osmosis, classification of candy is coming up, and showing how important water is to living things.

-In 8th grade, students repeat all of the standards from 6th and 7th grade; students also identify solutions; last year, teachers reviewed by standards; students rotated to different science teachers to review their weakest standards; results are expected to show learning gains, and it will be repeated this year.

- **Literacy Week -- Mrs. Roberts**

--Literacy Week is scheduled from 1/22 – 1/26; it is a district initiative; WMS will have members of the community participate in reading to students; the media center's grand opening will be on 1/22; at least 31 teachers will have community members read to students during 1st period; there is a door decorating contest; the theme is "Find yourself in a book!" Band, NJHS, Peer Counselors, etc. will participate; there will be also be a dress up day.

- **School Update -- Mr. Bianchi**

--21st Century Learning – 90% of teachers completed it at Westglades; we are 1 of a few middle schools which achieved that percent of trained teachers.

--Drama performed at the festival and received 25 Superiors and 13 Excellents.

--Band and JROTC marched in the Coral Springs parade; band is getting ready for the Monday, 12/18 concert.

--A+ money goes out today.

--SV special Olympics took place at Douglas; the students enjoyed themselves.

--The Robotics field trip was a success; WMS won the "rat-toss," using their catapults.

--We had a magnet assembly for 8th graders; Douglas was represented, too.

--PTA had a lovely holiday luncheon for WMS staff; the planning room was transformed into a winter wonderland.

--Midterms are coming up next week; there are 8 high school credit classes which will take midterms. Teachers have been reminded to be mindful of that when assigning work that week.

--The drill was successful; the district and Broward County Police ran the drill; there was a fake "bomb" put in a teacher's room; the teacher reacted appropriately; we did not have any major issues; we helped a few kids find their teachers.

--Parent concern: Do drills happen during lunch?

--Mr. Bianchi says the safe team has discussed that; we impress upon teachers and students that practice will help at any period. Teachers and students would still follow the same procedures.

--The work order for the buzzer is in; we are waiting for the funding for that.

--They are still working on the fence; it is just going to take longer to put up than anticipated; the cone bars have been set up and are working well.

--There will be a camera installed in the security office.

--We are waiting on 3 portables; they will be here shortly.

--The new facility service person is hired; we are waiting on clearance from the district.

--The Westglades Showcase for incoming middle schoolers is coming up on January 24.

--Elementary tours are coming up at the end of January.

--Parent Night at Douglas will be on January 31.

--There is a Coral Springs/Parkland meeting coming up on January 11; see the flyer which is being passed around.

- **SAF Update**

--Option 1 school calendar was sent out.

--About the 911 medical emergency call recently, it took 3 calls before they showed up. The issue is being discussed with Deputy India.

--Added to the agenda: Jeff received a survey, with a link, regarding the science adoption; the survey seeks valuable feedback from the community; parents are asked to vote; Mrs. Arriola can provide a suggestion/feedback; a textbook committee participates in the textbook adoption process, but parent feedback is important.

--Heavy backpacks has been an ongoing issue for years; SAF would like a taskforce (committee), made up of teachers and parents, to educate students about backpacks. We should take an active approach and spread awareness, such as creating posters to educate students. It would be beneficial for students' health long-term. SAF would like parent support on the issue.

--Mr. Bianchi says he will reach out to teachers and coordinate a date.

--Mrs. Gaines has a contact for backpack education.

--See Exhibit A: This week in Tallahassee the legislature met for the final round of pre-committee meetings. The House PreK-12 Innovation subcommittee discussed the Tax Credit Scholarship along with school voucher programs across the nation.

--There is a concern about the security office not being opened. When parents try to come in, there is no one in the security office before 8 am. Also, band had practice today at 8:15 am.

--Mr. Bianchi says he is aware of the issue, and there is a solution; although it is difficult to find coverage, there will be coverage in the future; there was an email sent out to band parents to drop off on the West side.

--This is Travis and Jeff's last year; we will need a new SAF chair(s).

- **New Business**

--Mrs. Niebla reports tremendous success, 98% passing rate, for Microsoft Word testing certification; WMS is the #1 middle school in the district for industry certifications; we are used as a model; Word testing included 6th and 7th grade this year. Starting in the 2018-2019 school year, 8th grade Engineering will move to the Excel exam, rather than Outlook; the Engineering exam progression will now be: Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Spark certification will be added as well, as an additional, optional certification for students.

--Students will have a choice to take Engineering, whether in the Finance Academy or the Engineering Academy; and Programming (Code.org; computer science discovery) will be offered for 8th graders only.

--Mrs. Niebla has done an outstanding job of setting up all of the certification testing at our school.

--Parent concern: Can teachers be reminded to respond to emails?

--Mr. Bianchi says he has addressed that; teachers should be responding to emails in a timely fashion. If necessary, cc an assistant principal when sending teachers an email.

- **Next Meeting January 19, 2018**

- **Adjourn 9:05 am**