

James S. Rickards Middle School

SAC Meeting Minutes – February 20, 2019

Welcome

Call to Order

- A meeting of the Rickards Middle School Advisory Council was held in the Media Center on February 20, 2019 (Rescheduled from February 13, 2019). Co-chair, Mr. Sohn called the meeting to order at 6:14pm. The call to order was seconded by Mr. Donnelly.

Approval of Minutes

- January minutes required no corrections and were approved by Mrs. Carter and Mr. Wongsam.

“Star Spangled Banner” Performance

- The national anthem was performed by Jennifer Ordonez, which was taught in Band by Ms. McClendon.

Treasurer’s Report

- Fund reported by Mr. Sohn at \$13,000.

City of Oakland Park

- Mr. Donnelly provided updates on behalf of the city.
 - Mr. Donnelly apologized for a comment made regarding the increased railway deaths due to the Brightline train. The apology was due to an elderly citizen being killed in the City of Oakland Park on 38th Street. Further safety precautions are being reviewed.
 - The silent zones for trains are to be implemented from 8:00 pm – 6:00 am.
 - Soul Celebration on January 21 was a success with a better turnout than previous years.
 - The Taste of Oakland Park on February 15 was a success as well.
 - The local library will have a used book sale February 22 – 23.
 - The local library will also be offering free tax preparation services for residents February 2 – April 16.
 - Tree give away will be February 23 at Wimberly from 8 am – 12 pm. Residents only, 3 trees each.
 - Ms. Samuel and Mrs. Horowitz are residents of Oakland Park. They have volunteered to get trees and donate them to the school.
 - School Advisory Board is scheduled to meet the 4th Monday of the month.
 - Waterway clean-up will be held by the county in Oakland Park on March 2.
 - Youth Day is scheduled for March 9th.
 - Dancing in the Street will be held on 12th street on April 26th.

SIP: Curriculum Updates

- Math

- Ms. Folkes: Math Club had 10 students attend Math Competition. Student Jennifer Ordonez states that it was a cool to be at a big event around other students and network. The next competition will be held at Sawgrass Springs on March 9th.
- 7th grade math is on target to complete review for standards. 8th grade is on target as well, working on Geometry standards. 6th grade is completing equations and inequalities. Success Camp for Math will be on Wednesdays beginning March 5th.
- Science
 - Ms. Balog: 8th grade has completed their last instructional cycle and will begin review of 6th and 7th grade standards for Science testing in the 1st week of May. BSA data has assisted in creating the curriculum for Success Camp. Camp for Science will be Thursdays. In the district Science Fair, we had a student, Sophia Pappous, place 4th in the county. At the Robotics Competition we placed 14th overall.
- Literacy
 - Ms. Wright: ELA will have a Mock Writing test on March 5th to give students an opportunity to experience the writing test environment. Writing Camp will be held on March 16 from 9 am – 11 am. In Reading, Ms. Sookdeo was selected as Teacher of the Month. Teachers will use Common Assessment and BSA data to remediate and enrich student learning. Success Camps for ELA Reading will be held on Tuesdays. During Literacy Week we had our first Spelling Bee. There was one winner per grade level and each winner received a bicycle.
 - Dr. Collado: Open Mic Night was a great success. Thank you to Ms. Samuel and her team for all the hard work. The student did a great job. A Mic System was order for the Media Center, to accommodate other events in the Media Center.
- Social Studies
 - Wongsam: The department just sponsored the school wide field trip to the Renaissance Festival. In 8th grade, Mr. Kalls took students to see “I Have A Dream” and Parker Playhouse, to the Courthouse to witness Juvenile Justice cases, and to JA Inspire, which is a career day type of event. In 6th grade, the students completed project Africa, creating diagrams, projects, and essays about African nations for Black History Month. 7th grade, teachers visited McNichol Middle School for tips on student success in Civics. To prepare for testing, Civic will begin camps and pull-outs. The department is organizing a trip to Washington, DC for next year for 7th & 8th grade students.
 - Sheffield: The visit to McNichol aligns with our SIP goal of embracing Best Practices.

Academic Camps

- Academic Success Camps will begin March 5th.
 - Tuesdays: ELA Reading
 - Wednesdays: Math
 - Thursdays: Science
 - Civics camps will begin two weeks prior to testing.

Principals Report

- We are officially a Cambridge School!

- Requests \$2,500 from budget to have bus transportation for students in three zoned areas with limited transportation for students.
 - Mr. Sohn initiates vote. Request approved unanimously by voting members.
- Our Black History Celebration will be held on February 28th. Our 6th grade teachers also created a unit on Africa as the curriculum on covers Egypt.
- There will be a Townhall Meeting on Public Safety at JP Taravella on February 25th at 6:30 pm. This is an effort to make parents and students feel safe in our schools.
- Will be attending the Caliber Awards with Ms. Tillett and Mr. Hammond for Teacher of the Year and School Related Employee of the Year on February 21.
- Our 2nd Book Fair of the school year will be March 4 – March 10.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held March 13, 2019 at 6:00pm

Motion Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Mr. Sohn, seconded by Ms. Balog at 7:01 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

Name of Recorder: Nakia Samuel

Name of Position on Board: SAC Secretary

Approval Date: