

SAC Agenda for Friday, January 19, 2018

- **Call to order: 8:05 AM**
- **Approval of December 2017 Minutes**

Motion to approve: Mr. Allison

Second: Mrs. Tephford-Rush

All approve

- **Current Budget: \$5,527.50 (classroom) and \$4,108 (teachers)**
- **Funding Request/Department Update – Mrs. Azzarelli**

-Funding request – ELA is requesting money to purchase more novels to complete class sets of *The Secret Life of Bees* and *The Outsiders*. Many of the novels are out of adoption. The Barnes and Noble fund raiser was a success, but it was not enough to replace some of the novels that are old and falling apart. We need more class sets so that teachers can teach the novels at the same time. The total amount of the class sets is \$839.00.

Motion to approve: Mr. Allison

Second: Mrs. Tephford-Rush

All approve

-Tephford-Rush proposed an amendment to the funding request, adding to the quantity of books to replace decrepit ones and complete the class sets.

Motion to approve: Mrs. Johnson

Second: Mr. Wolfe

All approve

-Department Update – ELA (English/Language Arts) has completed 2 CFA's (Common Formative Assessments). Students have read at least one novel. Teachers will be focusing on writing, since the writing test will be coming up. Teachers have been working on those skills before this point, too.

- **Department Update – Mrs. Poulter**

-In math, students are working on a new software program called i-Ready. Students took a diagnostic test that evaluates them in multiple areas and creates 20 lessons to build their skills.

-There are 8 different levels of math.

-6th Grade – Average: wrapping up fractions, decimals, and percent, then beginning prime factorization and order of operations; Advanced: working on combining like terms and evaluating expressions; GEM 6: moving onto writing and solving one and two step equations.

-7th Grade – Average: finishing up a module on percent and moving to working with equations. Advanced: working on a probability unit involving experimental and theoretical probability.

-8th Grade: working through Proportional & Nonproportional Relationships (slope and y-intercept), writing linear equations and functions.

-Algebra: finishing linear functions and moving to multiplying polynomials. The next chapter will be on factoring polynomials, followed by solving and graphing quadratic equations.

-Geometry: solving right triangles using several methods, such as Pythagorean Theorem, Trigonometry, etc.

-FSA prep will consist of doing "spiral" reviews, FSA warm ups, Practice tests, Reference Sheet practice, and a FSA countdown packet.

- **SAC Mid-Year Report – Mrs. Collie**

-The SIP (Student Improvement Plan) goals focus on improving the academic performance of the lowest quartile or lowest performing students.

-In ELA, the lowest quartile is using Newsela; teachers are successfully implementing the CARE (Curriculum, Assessment, Remediation/Re-teaching, Enrichment) Packages, which are consistent with the district's BEST practices; ELA is aligning the standards to curriculum and is looking at research-based strategies through PLC's. In math, students are using i-Ready to address the lowest quartile.

-Learning gaps in SWD (Students with Disabilities), ELL (English Language Learners), FRL (Free and Reduced Lunch) range 8-20 points difference below the average score. Those

students are offered additional support, through ESE and ESOL pull out and modified learning strategies.

-For reading, FAIR testing and USATestPrep are tools used to monitor student progress.

-Parent question: What is FAIR testing?

-Mr. Bianchi explained that FAIR (Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading) is a state test, aligned with the Florida Standards, that focuses on students' progress in reading.

-Parent Resource Night also provided parents information about strategies that are being used and may be used by parents themselves to help students meet the testing requirements.

-Teachers are looking at data and interventions, specifically having a plan for those bubble students, who are in danger of dropping to a lower level by a few points.

- **School Update – Mr. Bianchi**

-The Ribbon Cutting for the new Media Center is on January 22nd at 8:30 am. We have a lot of dignitaries coming out to the school, including Superintendent Robert Runcie, Chief School Performance Accountability Officer Valerie Wanza, Mayor Christine Hunschofsky, Vice Mayor Stacy Kagan, Parkland City Commissioners, Parkland Education Advisory Board Members, students, and parents. The PTA has done an amazing job in providing us with the funds to make the Media Center a place where students can work collaboratively and have access to a variety of technology tools.

-Mrs. Roberts explains that there will be dress up days, related to the theme of finding yourself in a book. The details are on the website, and teachers will disseminate the information as well. There will be a door decorating contest; the judges are going out today. There is a great week planned.

-Mrs. Stratos explains that she has set up an author visit. Kerry O'Malley Cerra, author of *Just a Drop of Water*, is coming in on Thursday; she will be reading portions of her book. Students are reading the book through history classes. If a 6th or 7th grader would like to get a book signed, they will be accommodated.

-The Westglades Showcase Night is coming up on January 24th. Parents will get to meet teachers, administration, guidance counselors, ESE Specialist, PTA; they will hear student testimonials; Multimedia class will present "a day in the life in a 6th grade student." The goal is to demystify middle school for 5th graders. We will be highlight clubs, athletics, extracurricular activities, and electives, as they tour the school campus.

-On February 12, NBC 6 are coming to film a "Brag About Your School" segment; we will be spotlighting the Fine Arts and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programs, i.e. the academies.

-The Debate invitational will be on Saturday, January 27 at WMS – the mayor will be here; it gives middle school students an opportunity to sharpen their skills.

-Volleyball season is a huge success: Boys are 6-0 and Girls are 5-1.

-In the security office, the buzzer installation is moving forward; the engineers are in the final stages. Also, a new television screen has been added to the security office, which is scrolling announcements for parents; it is linked to the school website.

-Parent concern: Could there be something at the door to release the door with a buzzer?

-Mr. Bianchi says that security is important. Having doors locked is essential to school safety. We practice those scenarios. He will be checking into if it is possible to connect the buzzer and the door lock.

-The update on the gate is that we are still waiting on construction for the fence to begin; re-engineering the footing that needs to be added for the gate is difficult and will demand a lot of labor.

-Regarding the new portables, we are waiting for portables which should be here by next week.

-The new facility service person started in December. We have expanded, so we have needed extra help to make the school look great.

-Take Your Child to Work day is on February 2nd.

-BSA testing for science (for 8th graders only) is on February 5th and 6th.

-5th grade Tours are scheduled on January 29th for Heron Heights, January 30th for Riverglades, and January 31st for Park Trails.

-In preparation for the 5th grade course card distribution in March, we are inviting 5th grade teachers to update them on information about regular, advanced, and gifted levels, as well as elective options.

-Incoming Students Parent Meeting is on March 15th.

-On January 31st, Douglas High School is having an informational meeting at WMS; they will discuss course card distribution and planning for next year.

-Parent concern: Will it be clear on the WMS course cards for 5th graders that GEARS and GEM will be tied together, in preparation to start Chemistry in 9th grade?

-Mr. Bianchi says that it will be clear, and Douglas is adding a science class. The county shapes the program as it develops.

-Parent question: When do we expect SMART bond money?

-Mr. Bianchi says that SMART bond money is coming over the summer. SAC will meet before funds are distributed.

- **New Business**

-SGA update: Sinan Kassim, SGA President, would like to thank the school for its support; SGA has created a platform to make the school a better place. The Florida Panthers fund raiser is on March 4th; tickets are on sale for \$35, and \$10 will come back to our school. SGA would like everyone's support.

-Mrs. Stratos thanks Mrs. Tephford-Rush for helping with the media center, pulling and rearranging books twice; the media will be ready for Monday.

- **Next Meeting February 16, 2018**

Adjourn: 8:37 am