

LSAC Meeting January 12, 2012

Attendees:

Tiffany Stone, Cecily McDaniel, Marnie Allen, Beka Sexton, Denise Harth, Shavonda Toomer, Justin Staus, Barbara Bell, Robin Kreitner, Angela Wilson

Principal's Report:

- Quality Review Report -- Details covered below
- Fulton County Superintendent, Dr. Robert Avossa will visit SAE on February 9, 2012; next LSAC meeting. Attempt to formulate a list of questions/issues ahead of time so that he will be prepared to answer.
- Begin thinking of topics for March/May meetings -- No April meeting (Spring Break; Testing)

Teacher's Talk

Harth-- Lola Shaffer (Trainer in Education) worked with grade levels on Writing.... 1st grade worked on writing "How-to" pieces as well as Famous Americans; Kindergarten-- fact/fiction; 1st-- Famous Americans (one of whom wrote about Principal Natalie Richmond!)

Sexton--2nd/3rd

2nd--Reading & Response; focusing on details in writing; responding to literature and substantiating their opinion from what they are reading. Science Lab--students are studying matter. A scientist from Univ of SC will visit soon to share expertise.
3rd.... Economy and fossils, along with persuasive writing.

Wilson--4th/5th

4th grade-- Social studies... Studying about Early America and the Colonies. Built models of their colony and made presentations; Wrote in Journals as if they were a 9/10 year old during colonial times; prepared author studies using flip books; In Science, teachers utilized writing skills by having students develop parts of an informational book.
5th Grade--Informational writing with immigrant journals. Reader's workshop project... Cause/effect of stripes. Starting persuasive writing.... American Revolution unit (journal writing, persuading King for their freedom).

Plans for 2nd half of year:

- February--- School House Rock Performance (approx. 30 - 3rd, 4th, 5th graders)
- Relay for Life-- looking for parent volunteers; some fund raising ideas
- Young Men's Service League of Milton-- men are tutoring about 10 students
- Wolfies Challenge-- lunches with students
- CRCT Challenge/Using Coach Books
- Extra help for students who need will be given.
- Voting for Teacher of the Year..... Teachers/Staff vote.

Parent Chatter:

- How would a parent find out about various county level committee opportunities?
Good question for Dr. Avossa, perhaps.
- Bullying--Specifically girls; Special programs? Check with Lynn Haldemann.
- Dr. Avossa coming for our February meeting. (February 9th)
- FYI..... Gina Cook needs a replacement from PTA.....

School Quality Review Report (Shavonda Toomer)

- Similar to a health check-up
- Initially some schools offered to participate....
- School administrators provide the review team with school demographics, achievement scores, etc. (things that help to characterize our school.)
- 6 areas are assessed: (RATING SCALE: distinguished, accomplished, proficient, developing)
 1. Achievement -- "**Accomplished**"
 2. Teaching/learning (Engagement -- students take ownership of their learning)-- "**Proficient**"
 3. Leadership/Management --"**Accomplished**"
 4. Curriculum--"**Accomplished**"
 5. School Culture/Personal Development --"**Accomplished**"
 6. Involvement of parents/community--"**Accomplished**"

Teachers were also able to share their opinion on school, administration, leadership, etc.

General feeling that Fulton County has not done a great job of "training" their teachers. However, when Principal Richmond came to SAE, she had that knowledge and has attempted to fill in those gaps; Score (Teaching/Learning) may have been even lower had those initiatives not been implemented. SAE went in knowing this was an area of proficiency. Participating in this process allowed for some self-evaluation as well as having outside opinion on progress.

Questions for Dr. Avossa:

1. Charter system--what does that mean? Effects? Pay? (how are resources utilized, class size, hiring additional teachers, curriculum, etc....)
2. Getting involved, as a parent, on District level?
3. Comparison of current school system vs. a Charter System
4. Plans for teacher training in Fulton County? We don't have the resources for training.
5. Calendar for next year....Whole week of Thanksgiving; Christmas week...
6. Equity with a charter system...? Resources... How does this change?
7. Rationale in how the idea of a charter system developed....
8. Common Core Assessments

March Agenda:
LSAC Nominations

