

School Governance Council Minutes

March 9, 2016

Members in Attendance: Garrett Abelkop, Tim Corrigan, Francesca Dellasala, Scott Doll, Deborah Fulghum, David Harris, Najuana Lee, and Kathy Smith. 6 voting members present of 9 possible voting members. Others in attendance: Kina Champion, Scott Hetherington. Two additional community members were present.

Meeting was facilitated by Deborah Fulghum, and it was called to order at 3:45.

Garrett Abelkop made a motion to approve the; David Harris seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

David Harris made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3rd meeting with submitted changes; Garrett Abelkop seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Principal Report

Tim Corrigan presented his report. We are in the midst of scheduling and verification. Enrollment is down 30 students (1913 students are project for next year). Through natural teacher attrition and retirement, we won't need to increase staff next year. We are working on creating the schedule and budget for next year. We are trying to create a schedule that will address district initiatives (i.e, literacy) and school level initiatives (the advisory program from the seed fund).

Graduation is Saturday night, May 27th, 7 PM at Verizon Amphitheater.

The success of our seed funds from last year has been outstanding. With the DesignIT classes have been a great success. Requests for these classes (Computer Science, Animation) have exceeded the teachers we have, so we are looking for other teachers who might have the qualifications to teach these courses. With the state's approval of coding as a language to satisfy the graduation requirement, we expect to continue to see an increase. As for construction associated with the seed funds from last year, we will have a contractor to do the college-style seating and the job will begin shortly. Garrett updated the council on the construction for Design IT classes. Furniture is being delivered in the next few weeks; there are some unanticipated costs for the installation of the furniture. We cannot move ahead with Building Alteration approval from the county. If we still have budget money left after this, we will plan to purchase additional equipment (tables, computers, finch robots). Deborah Fulghum confirmed with Kina Champion that we might be able to apply for grant monies for future furniture needs.

11 Alive News posted a story about the rise of heroin use in the North Metro suburbs. One of our graduates was featured; 8 of his friends have died from overdoses. We are partnering with a group, Pathways to Life, to try to increase awareness with the students about the dangers of drug use, especially prescription drugs (which lead to heroin).

Scott Doll shared about efforts in the local Rotary Club to promote “Good Samaritan” legal protections for people to call in drug overdoses without fear of prosecution. They are also working to be sure that emergency personnel have (and are trained) to use Narcan (a sort of epi-pen for opiates).

Seed Fund Update

We did not get 100% of our request; we asked for \$167,653 and we were granted \$50,000. The grants team at the county can help the school to apply for grant money. Schools identify a “grant champion” (ours will be Dr. Lee) to receive training on how to generate funding. Students can also be considered. Kina and Deborah shared some information they received from the grant team presentation. (Kina is sending out an email with a handout from the grant team that includes links, suggestions for success, funding resources to consider, etc.)

One item to note is that we can go back to ask for seeds to expand the CARES program.

Budget Committee report

David Harris reported on the required work of the SCG to review the budget. This year, each school is allotted \$179 student by the county. The budget is about \$500,000 less than last year because the county had provided a one-time extra \$50 allocation per student midyear. The variables for class size and faculty are determined through the information collected from the scheduling requests. Highlights of changes for next year will include contracting custodial staff instead of having in house staff. The budget committee met last week to review the budget process to allocate money; the committee determined that the procedures they are using are ones that should be approved. They recommended that the council approve the budget for next year, understanding that there may be some minor tweaks.

Budget Vote

David Harris made a motion to approve the 2016-17 budget recommendations for next year that will be presented to Fulton County on behalf of Chattahoochee High School. Dr. Lee made a motion to approve; Deborah Fulghum seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

Design IT Teacher Training Update

Dr. Lee summarized the training she and Ms. Whitlock attended at the Future of Education Technology Conference. They plan to “teach the teachers” in a Tech Week for Teachers event during March to focus on utilizing tech in the classroom. Dr. Lee has also applied for another online class at Georgia Tech for programming for online gaming.

Update from Communications Committee

Garrett Abelkop reported on the work of the group to address the elections plan (two parent positions and one teacher position). We have five teacher candidates running for the open seat; there will also be one appointed position. We have five parents running for the two open seats. The elections are open from March 23-29. Parents can vote through Home Access; teachers will vote using their teacher ID

information. The candidate statements are available on the website. Kina also suggested the committee consider ways to keep candidates who do not “win” to find ways to stay involved in the work of the council, sit on committees, etc.

Announcements and Adjourn

Scott Doll made a motion to adjourn. David Harris seconded it; the meeting adjourned at 5:06.

Our next meeting will be on April 13 in A101 at 3:55