

School Governance Council Minutes

January 18, 2017

Members in Attendance: Tim Corrigan, Kathy Smith, Garrett Abelkop, Matt Mihordea, Dilip Tunki, Holly Bonvissuto, Charles Thomas, Harry Traub, Francesca Dellasala; 6 voting members present of 9 possible voting members. Mary Kathleen Sweet (school governance facilitator) was also in attendance.

Meeting was facilitated by Kathy Smith, and it was called to order at 3:54 PM.

Matt Mihordea made a motion to approve the agenda; Charles Thomas seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Kathy Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 7th, 2016 meeting with no changes; Holly Bonvissuto seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Principal's Report

Garrett Abelkop will take over Nikki Lee's SGC position for the rest of the term due to her resigning her teaching position at CHS.

CHS received 2 awards from the Governor's Office for "Greatest Gains" and "Highest Performing" due to our improved CCRPI scores. Mr. Corrigan shared testing data with SGC for the last three years and pointed out that our students are taking more rigorous courses, while maintaining the graduation rate. Georgia Milestones scores are substantially higher than the county in American Literature and Composition, Coordinate Algebra/Algebra I, Biology, and US History.

Enrollment projections for next year are similar to the current school year, so Mr. Corrigan expects hiring to be minimal. We have two teachers who are planning to retire.

RFF Update

The RFF was approved for 5.5 professional days during the 2017-2018 school year. The days will be selected by a joint effort between the administration, the strategy/innovation team, and the SGC members. Tentatively, a half PD day is planned for the PSAT date this year. The administration is trying to coordinate with our feeder schools in order to work on vertical teaming and harmonizing our strategic plans. There is some concern with too many half days because of a financial burden on the cafeteria so the administration is considering using mostly full PD days.

Some documentation of how the 5.5 days were used may need to be provided, Mary Kathleen Sweet will investigate and let us know.

Seed Fund Update

The county will inform us if we are invited to defend our seed fund request on 1-19-2017. Mr. Corrigan and Dilip Tunki were selected to defend our seed fund request if we are invited to do so. Mr. Corrigan is expecting a list of questions that they will be asked while defending the request, so there will be some time to prepare. Several SGC members are on standby to meet either on 1-19 or 1-20 in order to prepare for the defense.

The backup plan for the seed fund was discussed. Dilip Tunki researched a backup greenhouse plan that would cost significantly less but is missing many of the benefits of the original plan. The backup plan may not qualify as "Instructional Space" depending on the county guidelines. Additional research will be required depending on the county decisions.

Review of Elections Process

The candidate declaration phase for the new SGC term elections is January 23 to February 17. The elections are March 22-28. Our goal is at least 10% of parents voting and 70% of teachers voting. The committee discussed a variety of ways to advertise the election process, including social media and a student produced video.

Charles Thomas (elected parent representative) and Kathy Smith (elected teacher representative) will need to be replaced during this election season.

Meeting Dates for Committees and Plans for This Semester's Work

The Budget Committee will meet February 8 at 3:45pm to discuss the 2017 CHS budget.

The Outreach Committee will meet February 8 at 3:45pm to discuss advertising the election process.

SGC will focus on the following goals this semester: an improved and well-advertised election process, meeting with our feeder schools to identify common objectives in our strategic plans, development of strategic plan for next year, RFF ideas for next year, preliminary planning for our PD days for next year, and adjusting our greenhouse plans with regard to how much of our seed fund is approved.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

Harry Traub made a motion to adjourn; Francesca Dellasala seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM.

Dates for Upcoming Meetings

March 8, 2017 (joint meeting with TRMS) and April 12, 2017 at 3:50 in A101