**Minutes from 9/19/23 Meeting**

State Bridge Crossing Elementary School Governance Council

 *Date/Time*: 09.19.23/7:00am │ *Location*: Conference Room

SGC Members Present

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Brooke Scharfstein, Principal | X | Holly Smith, Parent | X |
| Nicole Capps, Teacher | X | Jessica Vargas, Parent | X |
| Selena Rosario, Teacher | X | Courtney Walton, Parent\* | X |
| Leanne Finn, Appointed Staff | X | Sai Sylvester, Community Member | X |
| Pam Johnston, Appointed Staff | X | Kevin Skrada, Community Member | X |

\*Video Conference

Meeting Minutes Summary

**Action Items:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | **By Whom** | **Second** | **Voting Results** |
| Approve Agenda | Sylvester | Vargas | All Approved |
| Approve Minutes (August) | Rosario | Sylvester | All Approved |
| Approve Initiatives: |  |  |  |
| 1. Purchase Write Score software for 2nd grade
 | Rosario | Skrada | All Approved |
| 1. Continue PLC Program
 | Finn | Capps | All Approved |
| 1. Purchase culturally specific books for Heritage Months
 | Rosario | Sylvester | All Approved |
| 1. Purchase recorders for Mrs. Gibson’s music classes
 | Johnston | Smith | All Approved |
| 1. Adjourn at 8:10 AM
 | Skrada | Johnston | All Approved |

**Minutes:**

1. **SBCE Milestone results:** K – 2nd largest % of students reaching stretch growth goals. SBCE first in state at 56% vs average 30%. Richard Woods, State Superintendent, recognizes SBCE for GA milestone scores (1 of 21 recognized) above 90%. We are at 92%. Superintendent also providing pocket constitutions for all 4th graders.
2. **Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (Bright From the Start) grant awarded to “Y” after school program:** The “Y” received a grant and will give each school $40,000 to go towards activities supporting “y” after school program. Choices include AED kits, bottle filling stations, first aid carts, and playground equipment. We have decided on shade structure for 4th/5th grade playground, musical installation on playground near field, rocking animals on K/1st grade playground, and pit replacement. Asking for variance on choices: artificial turf in Peace Garden ($45,000).
3. **Academic focus on writing skills:** Focusing on writing skills this year, particularly 2nd grade writing program to prepare students for challenging 3rd grade writing. District created writing assessments for 2nd grade. District Superintendent wants to make it mandatory. Under review.
4. **Heritage Month Recognition plans:**  We plan to celebrate responsibly/equally. There are strict guidelines and we will follow Fulton County’s lead. Sept/Oct for Spanish heritage, February for Black Heritage, March for women, and May for Asian heritage. We will have books on display that represent each group. Holidays will represent all cultures. Feature articles to appear in Paw Prints.BNW (?) to choose facts and questions of the week. Famous people from each group will be recognized.
5. **School Satisfaction Survey:** Improved by 1% (20% vs 19% dissatisfied). 13% of parents would not recommend Fulton County schools. 100% of SBCE parents approve. 100% of SBCE teachers are promoters of SBCE (last year 70%). Parents request more meetings to explain teaching methods, ie, TAG—how to qualify.
6. **iReady vs other on-line instructional software:** the contract with iReady is expiring. It has been a good indicator of GA Milestones performance, but daily lessons are not producing desired improvement. Other options are being reviewed.
7. **Council Initiatives SY23-24:**
	1. Selena: there are no significant writing prep materials. Write Score provides very specific feedback on strengths and weaknesses. District pays for 3rd – 5th grade. We need 2nd grade program to prepare students for challenging 3rd grade writing. Write Score software will cost $1000.
	2. PLC has made a difference in student performance and teacher effectiveness. We want to continue this work, increasing meeting frequency by 2 full days. $15,500 cost.
	3. Teachers would like to use culturally specific books during Heritage recognition months. We would like to purchase books for each teacher for each designated month. Teachers will read to class. $560 cost.
	4. Recorders for Mrs. Gibson’s music class: impressive results from last year’s purchase of recorders…. concert was well received. We would like to repeat program, purchasing recorders at a cost of $410.