Mill Creek Middle School Council

September 18, 2019

Minutes

1) Call to order – 8:02 Motion: Shannon Burdette, 2nd: Amy Agnew
2) Pledge of Allegiance
3) Approval of the Agenda Motion: Amy Agnew, 2nd: Molly Ball
4) Approval of Minutes and discussion of website location of past minutes. Motion: Margarita Nickell, 2nd: Molly Ball
5) Move to New Business Motion: Amy Agnew, 2nd: Molly Ball
    - New members introduced: Teachers Margarita Nickell and Ryan Brumbelow, Parent Claudia Kennison
    - Election of Officers: Chairperson: Molly Ball, Vice-Chair: Margarita Nickell, Secretary: Amy Agnew
    - Reviewed and Adopted 2019-20 Leadership Qualities of a Principal
    - SEL Initiatives – New Social & Emotional Learning program
        - Although new "buzz" words, long overdue initiative where teachers and students aren't just doing their jobs, they are supporting the emotional needs of the students. Middle school is a time of high stress and emotional change for students. Program allows educators to focus on students with social and emotional needs based on Panorama Survey, GRIT (goal-setting, self-efficacy, mindset). Data can be reviewed on a schoolwide scale, individual grade, and by individual student.
        - Currently Mill Creek Counselors offering specialized support groups during lunch where students have been seen coming out of the group feeling more supported, realizing others experience the same issues like them and invite others to join the support groups.
        - Mill Creek adding more positive messages across the school. Last year the Art Club decorated the sidewalk with positive messages and drawings in chalk for students to see as they entered from the bus lanes. Due to rain, the school purchased canvas for the Art Club to decorate and hang on the walls for students to see as they enter for the day.
        - Shannon Burdette suggested positive messages in the bathrooms on the stalls. Many parents have volunteered to make vinyl lettering for the walls. Student groups are being organized to meet with Mr May and would be a good source for sayings to add to the décor.
        - Wildcat Wednesday homeroom activities touched on as they are in line with the SEL initiative.
6) Report of the Principal
    - 2019-20 Updates:
        - Enrollment 1473 up compared to last year at 1410. Projection was 1450 so slightly tighter than expected but with the construction MCMS is set up for the

future growth. New positions added with increased population were 2 ½, with turnover 8-10 new to MCMS faculty members of which 4 are brand new to teaching. Teacher workrooms were converted to classrooms to avoid teacher float and an additional MO classroom bringing the total to 3 for MO.

- New construction progressing with target occupancy of August 2020. Mezzanine electrical allows for uninterrupted class time for repairs and maintenance. New wing has wider hallways with lockers expected on one side of hallway. Pictures provided, see Agenda attachments.
- New courses added for 2019-20: STEM and Yearbook connections classes. Lori Taylor with experience at the Ballground Stem Academy is teaching both classes. STEM class is aligned with Science curriculum to help meet SIP Goals. Students are building things like roller coasters with marbles. The Yearbook class is student driven with approximately 20 students. Students are learning journalism, photography, and interviewing skills and prepares students interested in High School Yearbook classes.
- Technology: Old classroom computers removed with 770 chrome books added allowing a 2 to 1 ratio of technology to students. Large computer lab removed. Grant applications in progress for additional technology. Classroom actual ratio more 3 to 1, more technology is always needed.

- 2019-20 School Improvement Plan Goals
  - Data reviewed provided in summary handout. Goals focus on Mean Scale Score improvements of 15 points per year over the next three school years. Why 15 points? Fifteen points is about the number of points needed to move a student from one band to the next for instance from Beginning to Developing Learner. Although there are many metrics the Mean Scale Score provides a better overall view. Faculty uses scores to adjust learning plans. Faculty is focusing on how to better support SPED and ELL (English Language Learners). Significant improvements seen in mean scores from 2018 to 2019 testing with good movement from Beginner and Developing Learner to Proficient and Distinguished Learner. GA CCRPI score is weakest in Science. Efforts began last school year to support Science and continued with STEM connection class previously discussed.

7) Presentation to School Council:
   - Handbook provided by email for review
   - Training PowerPoint on School Council rules/purpose.
8) 9:06am Motion to Adjourn: Motion – Margarita Nickell, 2nd Molly Ball
   Next Meeting November 20, 2019 8AM