

Sabin Middle School
School Accountability Committee Webex Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 5, 2020

Attendance:

Parent Members:

Chelle Ehlen
Marion Clawson
Neil Pettigrew (Chair)
Jaqueline King
Velvet Stepanek (Secretary)
Jane Tucker
Casey
Lori
Damien

School Members:

Jared Welch (Principal)
Bill Walker (Teacher)

Community Members:

Jan Rennie

The regular meeting was called to order by Neil in the Webex meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. Introductions

Everyone who wanted to, introduced themselves.

2. Approve agenda

Agenda approved.

3. Approve the minutes from the August 31 SAC meeting.

Minutes approved.

4. SAC Training

SAC training on line sponsored by the DAC committee on Thursday, September 24th.

Velvet provided an overview. Dr. Thomas, Cory Notestine, and Dr. Khaliqi presented. 70 people attended from 27 different schools. Next SAC Training is early November.

5. Student Count

October 1st was the official student count day. Sabin is at 690 students this year. This is about 40 below projected numbers. We are still reaching out to families we haven't seen.

6. Hybrid Scheduling & Learning

How is the hybrid scheduling that has now started working out?

25% of students are remote only. This option will be available for the entire school year.

75% of students are following a hybrid schedule. There are 200-220 students in the building each day. The smaller number helps with social distancing. Each grade level is passing between classes at different times. There are 4 minute passing periods.

Lunches are by grade level. Right now most students are eating outside but the cafeteria is large enough for social distancing to occur during lunch.

Students are assigned lockers but are only accessing them in the morning, before & after lunch and at the end of the day.

Each class is about 110 minutes long. Mask breaks are worked in. The last 5-7 minutes students are helping wipe down surfaces. Students don't clean with any chemicals. There is hand sanitizer in all classrooms and good hygiene practices are being promoted.

Because of the hybrid schedule, all teachers are teaching an in-person group and an at home group. Teachers are doing professional development on how to structure blocks of time within a large amount of time. If time is broken up well then students remain engaged.

Advisory class is about 30 minutes per day. All teachers have now had training in Second Step the Social Emotional Middle School curriculum. Advisory is structured to do Social Emotional Learning, help students monitor academics, build relationships, and have fun.

The cell phone policy is still in effect this year. Cell phones should stay in lockers.

Fully remote students have core and exploratory teachers assigned to them. Classes are large. They are following the same schedule as the in-person learners. They are limited to the exploratory classes they can take. The remote option will remain for the whole year but the teachers may change depending on numbers.

How are teachers doing? Moral is not great. Teachers are working very hard. Things are changing all the time. Teachers are learning new things, adjusting, and being flexible. Thank you teachers for all your hard work.

Students are excited to be back in school.

7. Unified School Improvement Plan (USIP)

The plan is currently being reviewed by Executive Directors of School Leadership (EDSL). The major improvement strategies were shared with staff last week. There is a focus on closing the gap. A summary of the strategies are:

- Instruction
 - Reading, writing, and speaking about complex text.
 - Working on grade level problems
 - Student ownership – data review, making learning relevant
 - Portfolios
 - Interdisciplinary Teaching – ELA & Social Studies working together to connect learning. GMP has been doing this, all teams will be doing this now.
- Culture
 - Capturing Kids Hearts – there is some adjustment in this environment but teachers are adjusting. Still greeting, checking in, and building relationships,
 - Advisory – building community and relationships.

5 Essentials data, Orgametrics data, and three quarters of data from last year helped to define the major improvement strategies.

We will look at 5 Essentials Data and the Universal Screener Data next month. Parents will be part of the 5 Essentials survey this year.

8. De-Tabor Info

D – 11 is placing a De – Tabor initiative on the ballot this November. We watched a narrated Power Point presentation to inform us and help each voter to understand the background to make an informed decision in the election.

9. Individual Career and Academic Plans (ICAPs) and new graduation requirements

ICAP lessons are normally done through counseling department. Now that students are back in person this will start up. ICAPs for middle schoolers help with goal setting and introduce them to career opportunities beyond high school.

Graduation requirement changes have been paused by the state right now.

10. Academics, Discipline, and Attendance

Academics – Grades are lower than this time last year. It is harder for teachers to follow up with students when they only see them in person once a week.

Attendance is an ongoing struggle. Attendance is currently at 83% - 85%. We are usually above 90%.

Discipline has been significantly improved this year. There is a struggle with students being present, turning on cameras and staying engaged.

11. School budget and finances

The school received additional funding because of COVID. Some of this money has been used to purchase touchless soap dispensers, hand sanitizer, and upgraded water fountains with bottle filling stations. The budget is in good shape currently. Mr. Welch and Neil will figure out how to share the budget next month.

12. Upcoming events and announcements

Middle school sports have been suspended until further notice

October 16, Friday – Teacher Work Day – No School

October 19, Monday – Furlough Day – No School

October 20, Tuesday – Start of the Second Quarter

October 29 & 30 - Parent-teacher conferences will be online. Look for more information from Sabin.

13. Next SAC meeting via Webex: Monday, November 2nd, 6 – 7:30 pm.