

Sabin Middle School
School Accountability Committee (SAC)
8/27/18

Attendance:

Parent Members:

Marcus Henson
Jeni Henson
Neil Pettigrew (Chair)
Chris Rucker
Velvet Stepanek (Secretary)
Steve Stepp
Elizabeth Velasquez
Maria Vidal
Suzanne Warmington

School Members:

Jared Welch (Principal)
Bill Walker (Teacher)

Community Members:

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

1) Introductions

Welcome Saints to the 2018 – 19 school year. Let's help make Sabin Middle School a great school. Hope your summer was fun and restful. Everyone introduced themselves.

2) Approve Agenda

Agenda was approved.

3) SAC overview for new members especially – some of our responsibilities:

Neil provided the following overview:

- a. A monthly meeting for parents and school staff members to share ideas, successes, and concerns;
- b. To make recommendations to the principal of the school and the superintendent concerning preparation of a Unified School Improvement Plan (USIP for short);
- c. To meet at least monthly to discuss how school leadership, personnel, and infrastructure are advancing implementation of the school's USIP and other progress pertinent to the school's accreditation contract;
- d. To make recommendations to the principal on the school priorities for spending school moneys;
- e. Composition of the SAC: principal, teacher, 4 parents, and 1 community member (as a minimum)
- f. SAC officers and schedule for the 2018 – 19 school year.
 - a. Neil Pettigrew, SAC Chair, neil70retiredpet@gmail.com
 - b. Velvet Stepanek, SAC Secretary, vstepanek@msn.com
 - c. Meeting dates: 8/27, 10/1, 11/5, 12/3, 1/7, 2/4, 3/4, 4/1, 5/6

There is a SAC website off of the Sabin page. It includes dates, meeting agendas, meeting minutes, as well as the School UIP.

4) SAC Training

Neil provided the overview of SAC training that is being offered:

Thursday, September 13th, from 6 – 8 pm, at the Tesla Educational Opportunity School on International Circle. Meet new Superintendent Thomas and hear his vision. Then you'll choose 2 training sessions that will benefit you the most from these 5 topics: 1) SAC 101, 2) ACT (Academic Achievement, Culture, and Talent) Development/UIP, 3) SPF/Growth, 4) Galileo K – 12 new assessment plan, 5) Peachjar/ Communications

5 Parents showed interest in attending this training. Neil will RSVP.

5) USIP updates

a. Results of the June 5th meeting at Tesla

Mr. Welch talked about two of the major improvement strategies for the USIP: Improving Instruction and Culture.

b. Preliminary USIP to be submitted in October

6) Hiring –

All staff positions are filled except for a World Languages Teacher. Currently, a long-term sub is filling the position. The school is still attempting to get a qualified candidate. We did fill the Math Interventionist position which was unfilled last year.

New staff members:

New Assistant Principals: Kelly Schneegas and Ryan Scott

New Front Office staff

There was some concern from parents about some class sizes being too large. GMP 8th grade Science and Math is at 37 students. There is also a P.E. class that has 45 students. The expected ratio in middle school for students to teacher is 32:1. Sabin doesn't have as much enrollment as expected this year so we currently have our maximum number of teachers.

7) Verizon Innovative Learning Lab update

The Recording Studio is in process. They are working on sound proofing the room. The Makerspace is currently housing the wood for the gym floor. There is a meeting this week to determine next steps. The lab has to be up and running by January because of a grant deadline.

8) CMAS scores and testing schedule for this fall

Mr. Welch presented the CMAS scores for the school. We are out of Turnaround status. We will still be using ANet tests quarterly to measure standards. We are part of the turnaround network from the state for another year.

Sabin saw growth in ELA across all grades. The school saw growth in 7th grade math but eighth grade math growth went down. Some concerns were brought up about Gifted and Talented Math growth scores. GMP math classes have been using a different model the last couple of years parents are seeing growth scores that show that this model is working. Mr. Welch said West Middle School had success with self-directed math class. West had better growth scores than Sabin did.

All students are going to take an AIMSWEB plus test this week to produce benchmarks for ELA and Math.

9) School Supplies

D – 11 supplied basic needs for this school year. As a parent, this definitely cut down expenses for school supplies. Parents are thankful for this.

10) Continuing and new programs for students in 2018 – 19:

Neil provided a summary of some of the programs Sabin is using this year.

- a. Capturing Kids Hearts – develop relationships, providing common expectations with social contracts, and help with behavior
- b. Trait Teams – stress good character and are involved in competitions
- c. WEB leaders – 7th period class for 1 semester for WEB leaders without music classes – 8th grade mentors for new 6th graders
- d. Safe Schools Program

Positive Action Curriculum chosen

All students will participate (tier 1)

Teachers had a ½ day training before school started

It will be taught in Advisory twice a week (Tuesday & Thursday) for 20 to 30 minutes following scripted program curriculum

Teaches and reinforces the intuitive philosophy that you feel good about yourself when you do positive actions.

Neil is going to be a classroom observer for 8 teachers three times this year. He will be giving feedback to UC-Boulder who helped Sabin choose the program.

Also, there is a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program with BARK bucks that is used.

11) Budget updates

- a. Gym floor update. Started last week with completion by the end of September.
- b. IPADs are for classroom use this year only.
- c. 20% increase to help cover basic supplies for the school & students
- d. The Sabin business office is cleaning up accounts that are not used anymore. Mr. Welch presented the accounts that will be closed and the accounts the any money from the closed accounts will be moved into. We did have some questions about the accounts that the money was being moved into because we didn't see the account number. Mr. Welch will verify the account number for us. SAC agreed to approve closed accounts. Suzanne Warmington moved to agree to close the accounts. Marcus Henson seconded it. Everyone was in favor.

We received a grant to cover all athletic fees this year. All students are encouraged to try a sport since there is no fee.

12) Good News

The first day of school started great with the welcoming of students using a gauntlet of teachers and 65 Verizon employees.

Football started. 7th grade had their first game last week. 8th grade plays their first game on Thursday, August 30.

13) Upcoming School Events

Open House, Thursday, August 30 at 5:45.

14) Other Discussion

There has been some confusion over some classes, Youth Ventures, Discovery, and Forum. There are only two classes. Youth Ventures also called Discovery, is a class with projects that impact the community. The entire class works on these projects. Forum is a class where students pick projects that they have interest in, do research, and work on individual projects.