



School Improvement Council Meeting

Minutes

September 26, 2019

6:00 P.M.

The Following Members were in attendance: Ruth Iglesias, Barb Waldman, Melinda Petruzzi, Alisha Polkowsky, Toni Karl, Robin Hardy, Lauren Prochak, Linda Byars, Janet Jordan, Nazarene Rice, Julie Bird, Juanita Bowens, Lynn Roldan, Gregory S. Washington, Karen William and D.C. Terry Sr.

Excused Absences: Mr Cantey, Vanonna Squire, Karen Rogers

- **Welcome and Introductions:** Ruth Iglesias, secretary, called the meeting to order.
- **Approval of Minutes of August 22, 2019 meeting:** A motion was made by Toni and seconded by Julie and unanimously passed.
- **Chair's Report:**
 1. SPAC meeting report: (Please see HIS SIC FaceBook page for complete minutes)
A few highlights:
 - *Irmo HS IB-Career-related Programme Certified
 - *Policy JFBA has been modified so that students who attend a school through the Choice option can now stay at that school through the highest grade; no need to reapply for Choice each year.
 - *The Early Site Package for ES #13 was approved – construction at the Amick's Ferry Road site can now begin.
 - *New visitor management systems are being put in place at all schools to replace the Lobby Guard systems.
 2. SIC Training session on October 8, 2019 at DO: Deadline to register for this training is October 1, 2019
- **Election of Officers:** Elections for 2019-2020 were held.
 1. DC Terry, Sr was nominated for the position of Chair and was elected unanimously by all the voting members present.
 2. Ruth Iglesias was nominated for the position of Vice-Chair and was elected unanimously by all the voting members present.

3. Toni Karl was nominated for the position of Secretary and was elected unanimously by all the voting members present.

- **Principal's Report:**

1. Lauren Prochak spoke to SIC on the IB Career-related Programme. Ms. Prochak introduces herself as a proud alumni of Irmo High. Her siblings are also graduates from Irmo and she was raised in this community. Ms. Prochak reports that the program is receiving its 2nd round of MSAP funding allowing for the adding on of the Career-related Programme. The IB Career-related Programme in conjunction with the CATE center allows for unique opportunities that may not be available in the IB Diploma Programme. There are currently 17 students in the 5 IB Career-related Programme areas: Aerospace Engineering, Biomedical Sciences, Culinary Arts, Media Tech and Veterinary Sciences. Currently working on getting the ROTC program IB certified.
2. *This Is Irmo* event being held on October 2 from 8:00 – 9:00. Dr. Hardy will be hosting a light breakfast and will talk to community stakeholders about the new offerings and programs at Irmo High School and the positive impact they are making in the community.
3. Dr. Hardy indicated that there is a school safety video made by District 5. The State Department threat assessments process is in place.
4. Dr. Hardy announced that the School Report Cards will be released on Oct. 1st.

- **Old Business:**

1. Positive Promotions Committee update: consider speaking at School Board meetings about events and accomplishments at Irmo HS; Linda is keeping the New Irmo News accountable.
2. Developing the "Whole Student" – discussion deferred
3. IHS SIC Facebook Closed Group – new SIC members please go to page and request to join
4. Updating SIC page on Irmo HS website – Sarah O. has updated with membership, meeting minutes, ByLaws, etc.

- **New Business:**

1. Several members offered input/discussion on what we should focus on this year, and asked questions. Some of the comments included:
 - We should include graduation rate in the "Whole Student" development
 - We should be planning how to help students get ahead and want to be sure that our students have same opportunities for SAT/ACT test prep as students at other schools; Dr. Hardy indicated that we have a SAT/ACT facilitator who is available to all students
 - DC wants to see the SIC get more done this year, including having students and parents voices heard. We need to figure out how to connect in a positive way.
 - Was there follow-up and/or feedback from the Race to the Table workshop? DC indicated that feedback was on an email thread, and asked how we can build on that.

- Does Irmo HS have mentorship for at-risk students? Dr. Hardy indicated that we do.
- **Other Items for Discussion:**
 1. District 5 Foundation Fundraiser October 3, 2019
www.district5foundation.org/events-fall-fundraiser.htm
 2. 2019-2020 Gold Series at CFA – Ticket packages and Sponsorships available at
www.irmocenterforthearts.org
 3. “How to Plan and Pay for College” workshop, sponsored by PAGE Five, on Monday, September 30, 2019 at 6:30pm in the District Office Board Room.
 4. “IB Programmes in District 5” information session, sponsored by PAGE Five, on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 6:30pm in the District Office Board Room.
 5. Alisha announced that On the Table will be held October 22, 2019
- **Adjournment:**

At 7:03 pm a motion was made by Barb and seconded by Julie to adjourn, which passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: October 17, 2019 @ 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

**Ruth Iglesias &
Barb Waldman**