SHS School Council
Minutes of Meeting
November 13, 2023 at 5:30 pm
SHS Media Center

The Statesboro High School School Council had its third meeting of the 23-24 school year on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the Media Center at Statesboro High School. Council members present were as follows: Principal Keith Wright, Maggie Halaby, Lakesha Hill, Amy Jo Riggs, Kathy Yawn, Ashley Thompson, and Jen Calhoun. Talmeshia Parker was not present.

Chairperson Lakesha Hill called the meeting to order.

The minutes from the October meeting were approved with no changes.

There were no items under Old Business.

The first item for New Business was updates from the Principal. Principal Wright shared information from the first semester that was done for students. There were 2 Pep Rallies held in the Varsity Gym for students that had no OSS days assigned. Additionally, there was a “calming room” for students who are anxious in loud, large environments. There was also a Food Truck Incentive held at the end of the 1st nine weeks. Students who were passing all of their classes and who had no major discipline referrals were invited to attend. There were 1,033 students who qualified for this incentive. Teachers “silently sponsored” students that were unable to afford purchasing from the food trucks. Cork’s Kettle Corn donated popcorn for all students to have for free.

Principal Wright then updated the council on the 4 major Capital Projects for SHS. The first Capital Project is the Auditorium. New carpet and a new projector have been installed. The school is working on updating the digital projector and purchasing new lighting. The second Capital Project is the Weight Room. The weightroom hasn’t been updated since the school was built in 2008. The new weight room would resolve some safety issues, allow for better classroom management, and allow for more students to be in weight lifting classes. The quote for the weight room is $250,000. The third Capital Project is a Digital Scoreboard for Womack Field. This renovation to the scoreboard would be used for many different events, not just football. Graduation, Special Olympics, Band Performances, School Wide events, and use by the Audio/Visual class are a few of the perks of upgrading the current scoreboard. The quote for the digital scoreboard is $200,000. The fourth, and final, Capital Project is the addition of a 3rd Gym/Multipurpose Room. This would allow space for more students to be in classes during the day, as well as more space for teams to practice after school, especially during times when seasons overlap. Mr. Wright and Dr. Driggers have already presented this information to the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Mr. Brad Boykin, and the Bulloch County Schools Superintendent, Mr. Charles Wilson. They will be presenting this information to the members of the Board of Education.

The second item for New Business was Cap, Gown, and Ballot, a Voter Registration Drive. Chairperson Lakesha Hill introduced an idea of getting more seniors to register to vote. Principal Wright shared that Amy Altman and Melissa Anderson did a voter registration drive. 16 students signed up and only 8 came to the drive.

The final item for New Business was Outstanding Student Fees. Members of the committee questioned why students who owe money, specifically over $1000, to the school system are allowed all the perks of being a senior and participating in the graduation ceremony. Ideas were tossed around about how we could collect this money before a student becomes a senior. The question was also asked that if all of our feeder schools are Title I, why is SHS not a Title 1 school?

At the end of the meeting, there was time to discuss other items. Bathroom issues for 9th grade, Beta Club induction, updating school websites and updating school profiles for seniors (through Common App and College Board) were a few that were mentioned.

The next meeting was decided to be on Monday, January 8, 2023 at 5:30 pm in the SHS Media Center.