

Feb 7, 2024 | 📅 School Council 5:30 (Media Center)

Attendees: Talmeshia Parker KEITH WRIGHT Jen Calhoun Kathy Yawn

lakesha brackins Maggie Halaby

Absent: Ashley Thompson (Jen Calhoun provided the minutes in her place)

5:30-5:35 Call to Order

- Ms. Brackins called the meeting to order at 5:38 PM.

5:35-5:40 Approval of November Minutes

- Ms. Brackins asked for minutes approval. Kathy Yawn approved the minutes and Amy Jo Riggs 2nd the motion.

5:40-5:45 Old Business Update

- No old business was discussed

5:45-6:40 New Business

- 5:45-6:05 Principal Updates (Reserved for Mr. Wright's announcements)
Capital Projects Updates—
 - Auditorium
 - Replaced the carpet and projector in the Auditorium.
 - The BOE will pay for half of the lighting updates for the Auditorium.
 - Digital Scoreboard:
 - Sponsorship Meeting took place on Jan. 25, 2024 for the Digital Scoreboard. Not highly attended, but made some good connections.
 - Follow up meeting on Feb. 22, 2024. Lots of interest was expressed and Mr. Wright would like for it to be replaced by the beginning of next year. Mr. Wright would like to have this paid for by sponsorships only.
 - 3rd Gym—still in the works. Discussions are still happening with Mr. Wilson.
 - New Weight Room
 - Out for bid right now until March 2nd.
 - Should take about 2 weeks to complete.
 - \$250,000 budget and will be paid for by the BOE
 - Benefits all students and athletics
 - Data Dig with Teachers:
 - Took place among the teachers with Mr. Wright to explore our SHS data to increase our scores on Jan. 2nd.
 - Examples of Discussion: Teachers want to incentivize students for taking standardized tests/EOCs. Looking at the data was very important to Mr. Wright to have those conversations with teachers.
 - ESOL Student Population:

- We have more and more students enrolling at SHS that need to have different language barriers.
- The BOE has assigned two additional helpers to assist our ESOL students.
- We have 4 fluent, Spanish speakers in our building to help assist students with the language.
- Athletics Concerns/Information:
 - \$45,000 debt absorbed by SHS Athletic Department over 3-year period
 - Money that had to be zeroed out:
 - 2020-2021–\$14,000
 - 2021-2022–\$14,000
 - 2022-2023–\$17,000
 - Currently–506 students are on the student Debt List for “Athletic Fees” with a total amount of \$24,458.56.
 - Certain sports do not generate any money–Tennis, Cheer, Track, etc.
 - Bus transportation is very expensive. Not all sports travel together with boys and girls sports.
 - All groups are in the black currently. Mr. Wright would like for it to stay that way.
 - District Policy for Athletics–Letterman Jackets:
 - In the past, students paid \$40/year for athletic fees. It paid for their letterman's jacket. That fee has been eliminated moving forward.
 - Currently: A student is permitted to purchase a Letterman Jacket when they are awarded a Varsity letter in the same sport for 2 years. The cost of the jacket is the student's responsibility (must be paid in full). Athletes who previously paid \$40.00 athletic fees will receive credit towards jackets.
 - Some coaches and/or booster clubs want to pay for or contribute to the cost of their athletes' jackets.
 - Coaches need to keep track of students that will have earned their letters.
 - Mrs. Halaby and Mrs. Yawn both would like to see a *consistent* criteria for earning their Varsity Letters. Not all sports are awarding letters appropriately.
 - We need to have consistency for athletics. We have had three different ADs in 3 years.
 - Mr. Wright shared that ADs (Dr. Driggers at SHS) now attend PLCs with other ADs around the district.
 - Parents need to be informed earlier about changes. More information needs to be placed on the Athletic Website.

- We are starting a 9th grade football team in addition to our JV and Varsity teams.
 - We are also starting a Boys Volleyball Club. GHSA will have this as an official sport in the near future. The Club has about 15 boys currently interested and practicing together.
 - Our Girls Wrestling team has grown as well.
 - Coaches would benefit from having contracts and knowing which sports have boosters.
 - We only have a contract with Baker Sports and it is a 5-year contract. We have no other contracts.
 - Mrs. Yawn recommended that we have a quality issue with uniforms.
 - Concern from Dr. Riggs—some of the matches for Tennis are 4 in one week. Who is scheduling the matches and games? Answer: Coaches
 - Region games are scheduled by the Regions.
- 6:05-6:15 SHS Seniors in foster care or group homes (Transitional resources)
 - Ms. Brackins asked if there is anything that our counselors do to help this specific population. Do they have a plan for after school?
 - Mr. Wright informed the group that these students have a plan and it varies from student to student. The School Social Worker also helps the counselors as well.
 - The number of homeless students has been increasing. We can identify at 45 students that are McKinney-Vento and are supported in those situations.
 - Brave Tomorrow and Care Partners are also a resource for therapy. Care Partners is going to help start providing medications for students as well. Mr. Wright is helping work on this as well.
- 6:15-6:25 Work Source Georgia (Resource Partner)
 - <https://worksourcecoastal.org/locations/>
 - Ms. Brackins shared that these services are available to our youth and want to reach out to the at-risk youth. She has met with this community group and they are willing to come to our school.
 - Mr. Wright said that they came to our school on Nov. 30th and will come by in the Spring as well. They work with Mrs. Holder, the Senior counselor.
 - This program helps students get jobs, work on interview skills, resumes, etc.
- 6:25-6:40 Other topics for discussion
 - Mrs. Yawn—sent emails to Dr. Driggers concerning athletics SNAP Raise fundraisers especially when students are multi-sports athletes. She suggested one fundraiser email for those students. The suggestions are to reorganize the way fundraisers are happening.

- Funds for sports are distributed differently and not equally distributed. Different sports have different needs.
- Students are not penalized for not being able to raise the money.
- The parents love the Friday Newsletter! It's nice for a quick update.
- Mrs. Halaby–Did we make a decision for the Honors and AP Parent night? Mr. Wright says that is still on the table and we are trying to align it with another parent night at SHS.

Topics of Discussion for the Next Meeting:

- Discussion about the PSAT and the amount of students that pay for the test.
- Career Ready Academy
- Course Catalog Information–posted for parents to see and learn as the next steps.

5:30-6:45 Set time and date for the next meeting

Next Meeting–Monday, March 4th, 2024