

MINUTES

Sandtown Middle School: School Governance Council

10/17/23 | 6:00pm | *Virtual* Public may attend the meeting by joining this [SGC 10.17.23 Meeting Link](#)

SGC Members

Attendees: Miranda Freeman, Principal | Javon Norman, Teacher | Thomas Morse, Parent | Camille Crowder, Appointed Staff | Natosha Rucker, Appointed Staff | Sheila Brown, Parent | Diedre Caldwell, Parent | Myana Solomon, Parent | Jaynaia Griggs, Parent | Marcia Green, Teacher | Erica Douglas, Parent | Tonya Rawlings, Parent | Monica Roberts, Assistant Principal

Meeting was called to order by Crowder at 6:05 .

Approved Agenda Items

(1) September Meeting Minutes:

Approve the Minutes with correction from \$46,930 to \$ 46, 390

Ms. Brown 1st; Mr. Morse 2nd it. At 6:10 p.m.

Action Items

(1) Reviewed Oct. Agenda & Approved Oct. Agenda

Caldwell-1st; Ms. Griggs 2nd it. At 6:16 p.m.

(2) **Website Audit:**

- Ms. Norman provided the four elements that were not in compliance to the Sunshine Law.
- Ms. Norman updated the Council on what revisions were made to update the website.
- Ms. Norman walked the team through the website showing the updates and what each element looked like to meet the Sunshine Law (Summary of Action, Agenda Minutes, Links and Times, Updating new member status).

(3) **Cross-Council-**

Crowder asked the team to refer to the agenda for the dates and times to attend to ensure we have representation from Sandtown MS. The Cross Council was a focus at the SGC Officer Training.

(4) Semester Action Plan-

- T. Morse wants to know how we can help with attendance and the at-risk students.
- Crowder mentioned that the concern relates to student culture and achievement. It also refers back to math and literacy portion of the action plan.
- PBIS focuses on student culture with discipline.

Motion to approve this portion into our VAF: Idea targeting the male student to enhance educational experience was brought forth by Crowder. No vote was made.

Principal Update

- Provided 3 Big Rocks; suggest that we are on target to meet them.
- Attendance goal is to decrease the number of chronic absence for 30%
- Had a celebration for perfect attendance for August and September.
- Chronic absence is getting worse.
- We are reaching out to parents to check out residency or support for things that may be needed.
- We will celebrate perfect attendance at the end of October.
- We are still under what we want to be for discipline, but for September we did not meet our goal.
- 6-7th grade has the biggest concerns for discipline. We want to see it trending down for fighting.
- The main issue that we have seen is fighting.
- Town halls will be held, and it is an intimate setting so that parents can answer questions on their grade level.
- Principal Freeman attended a walk through at Webb Bridge to see their instructional and leadership styles. Stated that the middle school had a mixture of diversity in the school. Their behavior was the same in terms of their challenges. Webb is a high performing school because:
 - (1) Parent Involvement- substitute teachers. Some became teachers after the following year. Has 20-30 parent volunteers.
 - (2) Strong emphasis on inclusion; inclusive community. The school practices ensuring that everyone is accepted.
 - (3) Getting the right people in the building; need people who are committed to making the building better. Some may need to up our level commitment.
- Principal Freeman wants to return with parents, teachers, and instructional coaches to Webb for another walkthrough.
- **Questions/Observation:**
 - Parents respond to Sandtown based on their personal experience in school.
 - Parents are not utilizing Infinite Campus.
 - Grades become an issue when it comes too late.
 - The Paper Progress report might be beneficial.
 - Communication must be effective: paper and computer.

Principal Update cont'd

- Threat Assessment is when a student makes a threat to harm themselves or others. We have a process to follow. If a tip is provided, investigation is needed.
- A threat assessment flowchart will be sent out for parents to review to understand the process and why it has to be investigated. (administrator and counselors are also involved in the threat assessment process).
- Communication is provided through (IC, Principal's Message, Parent Conference)
- Protocol for Solutions (teacher, grade level administrator, principal, zone superintendent).
- Volunteers for PBIS are needed. Reach out to parents for volunteering at the events to build a better community.

Charter Dollars

Shapur-

Walt Disney Imagination Campus

- Leadership Workshop March 23; Team building workshop March 24.
- Only for HS Level Course
- Price \$20,000
- Fundraiser is on-going as well as concession stand.

Question(s) :

- (1) How many students-22
- (2) How many fundraisers or is fundraising a consideration?

Response: Have already done one fundraiser; but fundraising is limited and can only be done during certain times when school is in session.

Motion- to wait to vote on one or more items instead of the entire trip. Love the idea. An emergency meeting will be used to discuss the Charter Dollars to consider Shapur's proposal. 6:45 p.m.

PTSA- Pass-Cameron & Ms. C. Roberts

Cheer Apparel

- Represents togetherness and leadership.
- Higher standards
- Provides respect for our school community.

\$4500 for 24 students; apparel item is itemized.

We need the cost for each item to vote.

Motion: Team decided to table it (the discussion on cheer apparel) and discuss in the emergency meeting. 7:00 p.m.

Question:

Is there a date so that the students can have the items?

Response: Cheer team needs information by next week.

Ms. Green- TSA

Real world problem solving.

Will not need a charter bus.

Acquired funds for portions of the charter bus; has been paid proportionally.

Acquired scholarship funds

Fall Leadership- 30 students

State Leadership-30-35 students

Nationals-10-15 students

Asking for these three areas and events; registration and hotels; transportation

Total is \$12,000

Motion- to table the discussion of voting on the event. We will dive deeper into the program and the resources to fund it. 7:25 p.m.

Superintendent Council

T. Morse- wants us to provide him with any concerns so that we can engage in the surveys.

Thought and Exchange- Pose a question; answer surveys, and address some of our issues.

Questions: How is the school year going and to chime in to discuss their experiences; next Monday will reveal the results.

Questions or Concerns:

- No questions or concerns.

Meeting Adjourned

Crowder adjourned the meeting at 7:35
 Crowder thanked everyone in attendance.

SGC Members & Email Address	Term End Date
Miranda Freeman, Principal FreemanM@fultonschools.org	N/A
Javon Norman, Teacher (Parliamentarian) normanj1@fultonschools.org	6/30/2024
Camille Crowder, Teacher (Chair) CrowderC@fultonschools.org	6/30/2025
Jaynaia Griggs (Co-Chair) griggsj1@fultonschools.org	6/30/2025
Natosha Rucker, School Employee-Teacher ruckern@fultonschools.org	6/30/2024
Sheila Brown, Parent BrownS14@fultonschools.org Marcia Green, School Employee-Teacher greenm3@fultonschools.org	6/30/2025 6/30/2025
Deidre Caldwell, Parent caldwellde@fultonschools.org	6/30/2024

