

Sandy Springs Charter Middle School School Governance Council: Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

7:45-8:20 AM

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members in Attendance

Laurie Woodruff- Principal, Tashema Atkinson, Neil Hytowitz, Jeffery Lawhead, Flor Mauricio-Santos, Melanie Couchman, Katherine Schuessler, Mary Frost, Marisa Baert

Action Items:

Item	Approved or Denied
Action Item: Call to Order	Hytowitz- Motion, Schuessler – 2 nd Approved
Action Item: Motion to Approve Agenda	Lawhead- Motion, Schuessler – 2 nd Approved
Action Item: Approve August Meeting Minutes	Lawhead- Motion, Atkins – 2 nd Approved
Action Item: Meeting Adjournment	Hytowitz- Motion, Couchman – 2 nd Approved

Informational Items, Discussion Items and Follow-up Actions:

Discussion Item: Training for Design Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSCMS was nominated by the zone superintendent for council members and certain leaders within the school to attend this training. This training is put on by Atlanta K12 Design (AK12DC). Training is designed to teach attendees how to create prototypes for unique situations and attune strategies to the needs of the school. There is an empathy-based approach to design. The training date that the council has decided upon is October 15 from 9-2. Council members need to secure appropriate coverage for the PD.
Discussion Item: Allocation of Flexible Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSCMS has \$44,000 in flexible funds. This a reduced budget from years in the past. Potential additional funding options were discussed. Allocations of the funds were discussed: device bags for students, printers in each hall, laptops for teachers to have additional technology available to students, post cards and postage for teachers to mail home to students, supplemental pay to club sponsors and coaches budgeted to build people and culture. Students with no laptops were discussed. Mrs. Woodruff is working with technology coordinators to ensure that all students have a device. Mrs. Woodruff will send a one-pager with the breakdown of costs and the budget, including past year's budget designs and what the school is aiming for this year.
Informational Item: Principal's Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Woodruff discussed that it has been refreshing to begin the year in a more normal environment. "Start with Hello" campaign happened in August and September; part of Sandy Hook Promise relationship-building program for beginning the school year. Student Success Skills is a curriculum that teachers teach in FOCUS to help students understand their emotional, social, and physical needs. These lessons are in full swing for the remainder of the year. Baseline assessments have been given. Sports are back and thriving; really helping to build the climate of the school. Clubs have started—the third week of September through to the first week of October. . ASAS is here--it has moved from virtual back to in-person. Buses were pulled from the program, but SSCMS is partnered with Sandy Springs Foundation and funding for sweep buses was made available via this partnership. SSCMS is the recipient of a grant from Sandy Springs Society. These funds will be used to complete the Maker's Space. Social Media challenges were discussed. There is vandalism in certain parts of the school. The school has asked for payment

	<p>to replace/recover these damages. No permanent damage has been done.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional support survey for teachers will be sent out.
Discussion Item: Set Next Meeting Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Bus Situation • Design Thinking Training Reflection • Couchman and Atkinson needed to join a committee. Couchman will join the Principal's Selection and Atkinson will join Community Outreach. • New members and officers must attend a training for SQC. Mrs. Frost will email information about this.

Public Comment – No one was present to request public comment.

Future Meeting Dates:

- October 27
- November 17
- December 15
- January 19
- February 16
- March 23
- April 20
- May 11