

School Improvement Council, Meeting Minutes, 2/6/24

Attendees: Elizabeth King, Stephen Diaz, Jim Davis, Ben Bower, Zakiya Esper, Katie Smith, Josh Ard, Ryan Gentry, Janie Langdale

SFES Faculty: Dr. Matthew Scandrol, Janelle Mickens, Felita Green, Lynne Trowbridge, Laura Timmons

SIC Meeting Opening (5:31 pm): Elizabeth King (quorum established)

- Minutes for 1/9/24 Approved; Steven Diaz motioned to approve; Jim Davis seconded.

PTO Update from: Katie Smith

- Good attendance at the Satchel Ford orientation, VIP Day was highly successful, Valentine's Day Lunch for SF Staff (Feb. 14), Sweetheart Dance (Feb. 23), Boosterthon to start in late February and end in early March (Feb. 29 - March 8).

Principal's School Update:

- The Fitness Bowl was a big success.
- A district inspection on January 30th identified several maintenance issues, some of which have already been addressed.
- Top Security Concerns:
 - Faulty PA system: 28 units are unusable, and 6 others have poor sound quality. Replacement parts are available, but the repair could take up to six weeks. Satchel Ford has priority for the replacement.
 - Temporary solution: One radio per grade level and the Remind App are being used for communication.
 - Narrow Strip of land: Ownership needs to be determined before considering closure options.
 - Security reevaluation: The SIC will discuss if involving the Richland County Sheriff's Department for a security risk assessment is necessary.
- Black History Month
 - Theme: Celebrate, Elevate, Education; Door decoration contest upcoming; Storytellers; Staff will wear Black History Month shirts on Wednesdays; Soul Food Potluck; Daily Morning show highlights a significant African American in U.S. History; Social Studies are including content exploring Black History.
- Planning for 24-25 School Year
 - Possible expansion in the number of portables for next year; at least 1 more teacher needs to be added; 701 enrolled currently, expected to be larger next year (5th grade is smaller this year)

Committee Reports:

- *Culture/Diversity (Zakiya Esper):*
 - Had a meeting with Dr. Scandrol during which several topics were discussed including: Camp Bob Cooper permission slip; Meeting with PTO on Feb. 16th to discuss several concerns (i.e. VIP Day equity; some families can't afford the cost of hearts); Making what access and equity look like at Satchel Ford better understood; Possibly bring in a consultant focused on DEI
- *Growth: (Steven Diaz):*
 - Mentor program is facing difficulties getting up and running due to dead ends in finding those who can facilitate; Watchdogs need to be present at all major parent events to recruit new members; PTO would have a list of those who attended the orientation; Explore the District's mentor program, R1 Champs; Zakiya has a contact in the district office that would be of use.
- *Maintenance (Ben Bower):*

- Prioritize what projects can be tackled (custodial staff vs. SIC committee); Trash/Equipment needs to be removed and the district is aware; trash on the playground is made worse by weekend users; Conversations are to be held between Trenholm LL and Satchel Ford administration concerning conditions of ball fields.
- *Marketing and Recruitment (Elizabeth King):*
 - Annual Report data collection
 - Will need help gathering honors, awards, and highlights of SF for this school year.
 - Elections in May
 - Deadline by April; Explore the expansion of the SIC; Doublecheck the SIC guidelines; Conversations need to be had concerning the ideal size of the Satchel Ford SIC; How can the voting timelines be adjusted to allow for more Kindergarten representation?; Be sure to notify the school after the election to better disseminate information to the Satchel Ford community.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- Possibly make SIC meetings virtual, positives and negatives?
 - If the greater public is included, should an Executive Committee-only meeting time be established?

Announcements

- WAG newsletter needs to be marketed and promoted (50% readership currently)

Adjournment (6:30): Elizabeth King

- Motion to adjourn made by Ryan Gentry; Seconded by Janie Langdale
- Next Meeting 3/5/2024

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Davis