

Meadowfield Elementary School School Improvement Council

Minutes

August 18, 2022

The Meadowfield Elementary School SIC meeting was called to order by Principal Cook at 5:35 p.m. (Virtual) In attendance were Lakisha Cook (Principal), Tony Van Alstine, Payal Shah, Katie Moore, Art Coogler, Nancy Stoudenmire, Sara Suber (Teacher Representative), Sybil Ely, Ms. Wright, Amanda Harris, Erin Pruett, Katie Moore, Ebony Brown (Assistant Principal).

Ms. Stoudenmire asked for a point of clarification. Last year, she served as Vice Chair of the SIC and the Secretary resigned last May, 2022. Until new officers were elected, it was agreed that Ms. Stoudenmire would take notes and create the minutes for this meeting.

The meeting began by Ms. Cook introducing herself as the new principal and explained she has been at the school since August 1st. All members introduced themselves, indicating whether they had children at the school and if they were community members or elected as school parents.

Principal's Report

There are currently 649 students at the school. The first ten days of the school year is monitored by the school regarding numbers in each classroom; they are still enrolling students. On Day 11, the District reevaluates each school's numbers. Ms. Stoudenmire asked how this number compared with the end of last year. Ms. Cook will have that number at the next SIC meeting.

Regarding facilities, the district office has asked the principal if there were any immediate needs. Ms. Cook has received a Fire and Safety Inspection of the school. The Fire Department said there were too many microwaves and refrigerators in the classrooms and they must be removed. Ms. Cook has requested 2 new large refrigerators, 2 microwaves, and new furniture for the teacher's lounge.

Deputy Doire has been transferred to another position in the Sheriff's Department and has been replaced by Deputy Harley. The security office was in the hallway at the school entrance. There are currently problems with that space: no air conditioning, a rodent infestation, and most recently, a leak in the roof. They are looking at solutions for this problem, but in the meantime, Office Harley has been relocated in the building. Ms. Cook reiterated that the safety of students is her number one priority, and she has reviewed her expectations with Deputy Harley.

Tuesday August 23 is Open House for grades K-2. August 25 is Open House for grades 3-5.

A parent asked if the refrigerators were now all gone. Ms. Cook said that yes, but there are exceptions for the Kindergarten, Special Needs, and Nurse areas.

Ms. Stoudenmire mentioned "Lake Meadowfield" as a facility issue. MES was to be part of the school bond money for this year to make improvements for the parking lot outside of the second grade portables. Ms. Cook said she will have an update at the next SIC meeting.

PTO Report

Ms. Moore said the PTO has been very busy and the school year has gotten off to a great start. All of PTO sold 550 items at the uniform sale. Ms. Reese's emergency closet is also full of uniforms for the year. Over \$3,000 was sold at the Spirit Store on Spirit Night; the store will be open during Open House. On August 9, a Breakfast was prepared for the teachers as they started the school year. On the first day of school, the PTO held the Boo Hoo Breakfast and met a lot of new parents that want to be involved. PTO will conduct a Teacher Appreciation Event every other month this year. PTO is working with Ms. Pearce in the library for another Literary Night.

SIC Guidelines

Ms. Cook reviewed on a shared screen the list of SIC Members. She asked what the election procedures were; voting was conducted in May, 2022. The terms of office are from July 1 to June 30. Ms. Wright was not on the State SIC website as a member. Ms. Wright said she was elected in 2021 to serve a 2 year term. She still has a fifth grader at Meadowfield so she is eligible to continue to serve. Ms. Cook will present all of this information to Dr. Cooper at the District Office and will have clarification as to who is on the board for the next SIC meeting. Ms. Stoudenmire said that this topic was discussed in the last minutes in May; she will locate them and send to Ms. Cook. Ms. Cook again thanked everyone for serving this year.

Parent Concerns

Ms. Cook explained that she has a very brief agenda because this meeting was already on the school calendar. She wanted to revise the agenda to see if there were any parent concerns, recognizing this was only day 3 of the school year. Parents did not present any issues.

Community Information

Ms. Stoudenmire shared that the South Meadowfield Neighborhood Association held National Night Out on August 2nd. Members of SMNA collected school supplies for MES. An SUV full of supplies was brought to the school on August 3rd. On August 16, Ms. Stoudenmire delivered more school supplies from United Way of the Midlands as part of their new initiative "Ready,

Set, Supply!" which was very successful. The neighborhood also is planning a new program called The Giving Tree which will be ready in the next sixty days.

Ms. Stoudenmire said that an ongoing issue is the speed of drivers on Galway and the failure of drivers to stop at the intersection of Galway and Macon; contributing to this also is the traffic from Hammond School and just general neighborhood traffic. She also wanted to inform Ms. Cook that major road construction was supposed to start at Christy between Galway and Byron by July 1; as soon as DOT updates the neighborhood, that information will be provided to the school.

Ms. Cook raised a concern about community members hanging around the school around 6:00 a.m. for the last three days. They are looking into the windows. Ms. Cook said she will continue to investigate this as the children's safety is her number one priority. Community members need to stay off school grounds between 7:15 am and 2:45 pm. One possibility is that the group F3, an exercise group of men, runs around 6:00 am every day. Mr. Van Alstine used to be a part of this group and will discuss this issue with them. Ms. Cook said she has never worked at a neighborhood school and she is trying to get used to the nuances of that.

The next meeting of the SIC is scheduled for the third Thursday of the month which is September 15. Ms. Cook will conduct a survey of the Council's members to confirm the date and time for future meetings as well as location (versus virtual).

Ms. Cook thanked everyone for their participation and for serving this year.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.