Meeting Minutes (02/16/2024)

with time ( ) and *action expected*

School Improvement Council
Edith L. Frierson Elementary, in-person
Tuesday, January ~~09~~ 16, 2024
6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

1. Welcome & Introductions – Members and Guests (2), *those in **bold** are voting*
   Attendees, in-person: **Ross Anderson, Josh Roberts, Kristi Harvey, Bethany Burnsed**, Lisa Vandiver, Morgan Treon, Kevin Swain, **Dana Platt**, **Latrice Smalls**, Nicole Barnes, **Audrey Mack**, Bridget Beggs, Julie Haddad de Sousa, Deborah Grant, Nicole Grogan, Brad Kolata



2. Approval of Minutes (2)
   Noted 3 changes to Mtg 1 Minutes – ELF SIC – 2023.11.29
   MOTION: Josh Roberts motioned to approve the amended minutes. Motion seconded by Ms. Dana Platt. Vote approval unanimous.

3. Principals Report (3)
   a. School Update provided by Principal Smalls
      - Frierson Forum for Interested Families to experience school, first-hand. Dates: January 17th and February 15th.
      - Majority of iReady tests completed; make-up testing in-progress. Partial results show increase % progress of on-grade levels in literacy and math.
      - Question: What are details of funding for the new public library resource?
      - Question: Are there current openings at the school? Principal Smalls reported that the lower EL has a waitlist after accepting 1 new student. Upper EL does not have a waitlist and has capacity, and the need to grow.

- Survey request, SC-SIC & USC's Institute for Rural Education and Development deadline (1/22/24) https://uofsc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cGWQDwVejRG6IJM - An anonmous survey has been requested for SIC members to complete, which will report on Social Emotional learning back to USC, and the SIC governance board.

4. SIC Focus Area of school renewal plan (10)
   a. Student / Academic Achievement is a priority focus of SIC efforts so reviewed 'Student Achievement' sections of current School Renewal Plan for understanding and discussion. The review focused on performance goals with self-identified strategies and action steps to achieve incremental improvement.
   b. Question: Can the detailed demographic data be shared? Answer: Yes, it can be shared upon request and posted to school's website.
   c. Review identifies certain positions such as reading intervention/coach are supported by temporary funding expiring this year. Question: Will Esser III funds be available going forward into the next school year? Answer: No, at this time they are in the phase-out stage of Esser funding. It will no longer be available after this year, however new funding sources are being requested as the projects it was supporting are showing progress and effectiveness. At this time, there is no plan known for Esser IV funds, but funds are still available based on Title 1, and being identified as a Priority School. Principal's goal is to improve to the point where no-longer considered a Priority School, meaning minimum performance standards are being met or exceeded.
   Action: Principal Smalls to discuss with pat Cline and Monica Smith about the potential for Esser IV funding

5. Committee Reports
   a. Reading Goals, literacy plan – Samantha Kurtz (2) not present, on leave
      i. There is new curriculum samples (ELA) being distributed for review and consideration. Examples displayed and parents/community are encouraged to review and provide feedback.
      ii. A little library book share site has been installed at the gate of the school. Free for anyone to take and place books since closest library is 8 miles.
   b. Salt Marsh Education and Engagement – Taylor Bensinger, Lisa Vandiver (10)
      i. Information: Presentation made by SeaGrant, DNR, and NOAA reps.
      ii. Program focuses on 3 areas: Ecosystem Knowledge, Restoration, and Recreational Fishing and Crabbing Skills
      iii. DNR and NOAA reps typically visit on biweekly basis for regular classroom engagement. Additionally, there are several field trips based on grade-level focused on experiential learning and engagement with the marsh and saltwater ecosystems.
      iv. The program has been very successful, and learning outcomes have been strong according to the data
      v. The work is being recognized as a model for school engagement by NOAA and DNR for the impacts with students and partner organizations.
      vi. Lisa Vandiver asked for suggestions to further improve engagement from the community. Ideas suggested included holding a summer camp,

connecting with the national fish hatchery near Bears Bluff, and seeking more local resident engagement while possibly incorporating locals with Gullah Geechee cultural experts. **ACTION: Lisa Vandiver apply for grant to continue, and potentially expand the work being done.**

c. Garden Committee – Hope Ivanova (2) not present
    i. Information: Green Heart visits scheduled for the rest of school year, volunteering encouraged. Dates are generally 1st Fridays 12:30pm -3pm with an adjustment for Spring Break; Feb 2, Mar 1, Apr 12, May 3
d. Tennis: Tanesha Simmons (2) not present
    i. Information: Nicole Grogan updated that they have reached capacity for the bus, and currently have 32 kids, 2 times per week.
    ii. Nicole calculated that 90 minutes, 2 times per week, adds up to 30 hours of potential tutoring and learning time that could be utilized on the bus to help improve performance in the classroom. She's requested funding to develop curriculum, using tablets, so that teaching can easily take place and learning can be measured for continuous evaluation and improvement.
    iii. Ashley Carrigan will become the new responsible contact for the tennis program as Nicole's role has been focused on interim involvement.
e. Mentoring Program – Ross Anderson (3)
    i. A framework for the program has been drafted.
    ii. Due to timing and available resources, the program is being developed for launch at the beginning of 2024/25 school year as concern for not enough time to successfully implement this school year.
    iii. Details and planning of the program to continue.
f. Gymnatorium Multi-Purpose Room (ad hoc) – TBD
    i. Discussion on how to best discuss the approved $5m funding which was approved in 2023, Fixed Cost of Ownership budget for FY 2024.
    ii. An ad-hoc team of Audrey Mack, Ross Anderson, and Bridget Beggs is formed to gather information and communicate need with appropriate board members.
    iii. It was suggested that Jeffrey Borowy, Anita Huggins, and Jasmine ?? are noted as the key CCSD contacts to schedule a meeting to get clarity on status of funding and how it's being prioritized.

    ACTION: Ross Anderson to schedule meeting for Gymnatorium Committee to internally meet and also to meet with CCSD leadership involved in the capital budget plan for clarity.

6. Public Comment: tabled
7. Announcements:
    a. Survey Deadline for returning students and families is January 22
    b. D9 SIC Collaborative scheduled February 8th, 5:45pm at St. Johns HS cafeteria.
8. Review assignments and Agenda for next meeting: tabled
9. Adjourn: 7:35pm

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved.