Sippican School Council
Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024

Attendance:

- In attendance: Lynn Dessert, Gregory Thomas, Ashley Sweatland, Amanda LeMarier, Kate Excellent (virtual), Erica Prien, Anna Ward; Virtual: Ashley O'Brien, Melissa Rogers, Kristina Callina

Action Items:

1. Request for School Council to review Quick Links in SWO - especially district bullying prevention plan
2. Community feedback available through 1/31 - anyone can complete Google Form here

Meeting Minutes:

1. November Meeting minutes approved
2. School calendar review
    a. Concerns from the group that 12/23 is a full day of school
3. Presentation for MCAS - MCAS Spring 2024 Overview
    a. Presented to School Committee on 12/5
        i. ELA 3-6 exceeded the state by 5%
        ii. Math 3-6 exceeded the state by 8%
        iii. Science exceeded the state by 16%
            1. attributes to Amplify Science and OpenSciEd
    b. Looking ahead:
        i. Using data to drive instruction
        ii. Foster consistent writing culture
4. Request for School Council to review Quick Links in SWO - especially bullying
5. First official all-school meeting - Junior Reporters and Kindness Crew presented; teachers reported it went very well
6. New math curriculum selection:
    a. Issues with current math curriculum: no longer in print; and the district is working toward alignment; also the math curriculum does not meet DESE standards
    b. Ms. Dessert is planning to organize a volunteer teacher committee to select a new curriculum
7. Norman Award
    a. Aligns with "3 to Be" culture
    b. Awarded to kids who are going above and beyond in terms of character and academics
8. Feinstein Grants have been submitted
9. Holiday activities
    a. Great reviews from the staff and volunteers in terms of student behavior
    b. VASE is raffling gifts for staff
    c. Community support: Toys for Tots, Pantry, Coat Drive, Kindness Tree

10. Data-driven additional instruction based on needs for each student is rolling out gradually
    a. Relevant to discussion of Enrichment (current model where all students are attending Enrichment as a specialist) and enrichment (prior model of additional academic activities for students performing above grade level