Satchel Ford Elementary
School Improvement Council

March 5, 2026
5:30 p.m.
Media Center

Agenda

Committee Members and Guests:	**SFES Faculty:**
Caleb Gaston, Chair-present Berry Mattox, Co-Vice Chair Sarah Roberts, Secretary Katie Smith, PTO President Daniel Hudson Andy Sipes	Dr. Matthew Scandrol, Principal Consuela Yisreal, Parent and Family Engagement Specialist

I. Welcome and Call to Order
   A. Establishment of quorum
   B. Compliance with FOIA
   Chair Gaston called the meeting to order, a quorum was not established, and it was noted that the group follows all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

II. Approval of February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes
   The Minutes were not approved as presented, due to a quorum not being established.

III. Unified Club and PALMI Award
   Coach Payne gave an overview of SCAPHERD and the PALMI Award. Satchel Ford won 1st place for the Midlands Region, for its excellence in Unified Club, Aftercare programs, and various sports teams.

   It was noted that the fall Yard Sale raised $1,700, to be split between Special Olympics and Unified Club. The program also gets requests for information about implementing initiatives from other local, and international schools. Upcoming events include Games at Keenen High School and the state Games at Fort Jackson, of which Satchel Ford has students compete in the 40-meter run and softball throw.

   A student spoke about the positive impact Unified Club has on her family.

IV. PTO Update
   Ms. Smith let the group know that Booster Thon had a $71,000 net profit, and that grant requests are being accepted from teachers and staff for the funds. The mural has been approved and will be painted during Spring Break; March 22 is Farm Fest & Family Super Ball. Upcoming events include Teacher Appreciation Week and the Neon Dance.

V. Parent and Family Engagement Update

Ms. Yisreal stated that the recent Zoo event hosted over 800 families, and that a future event will be held at the Museum of Art. There will be one or two more events before the end of year, to assist with utility, food, or clothing needs.

VI. Principal's School Update

Dr. Scandrol noted that many events have happened and are coming up, such as the Sweetheart Dance, Fitness Bowl, Honor Choir participation in the Choir Performance Assessment, and 5th graders at Camp Bob. The FAPD has had a greatly increased presence around the school. A make-up weather day will be April 3rd.

VII. Continued Business

A. Strategic Plan Review and Development

Mr. Sipes is working on the summary and will have a draft of the parent report soon.

B. SIC Member Handbooks and Information

a. Draft Bylaws

i. Members of SIC (Article III):

1. Secretary to collect contact info for members of SIC that is to be noticed to student body in newsletter (should we do this year or start in fall?)
2. SIC should be made up of
    a. 6 elected parents of students (3 for a 2-year term each)
    b. 2 teachers elected by the teachers
    c. 4 representatives appointed by Principal; ex-officio members may include Principal, Asst. Principal, CRT, and president-elect of PTO

ii. Timing of Elections (Article IV)

1. Parent elections must occur before last day of school year and council members assume their duties immediately
2. Teacher elections take place before last teacher workday of the school year

For parent representatives, it was decided that Dr. Scandrol will send out a sample nomination form to the SIC for review. It would then go in students' red folders on 3/20, to return to school with nominations by 3/31. Ballots would be addressed at the April meeting.

For teacher representatives, the school Leadership Team will provide teachers, so that two will rotate/ be assigned to attend SIC meetings each month.

iii. Must develop an annual school report to parents and constituents by April 30 (Article II)

C. SIC composition/recruitment

D. Invitation of District Administration to SFE

Leaders have been invited to ArtFest on 4/27.

E. Annual Report to Parents

Mr. Sipes is working on the Report.

F. Annual School Report Card narrative

The Report Card narrative will use the same text as the Parent Report.

G. Lunch Buddies and Watch DOGS

The Lunch Buddies Program started last week, with four volunteers to meet with students two times per month. More volunteers will be recruited in the fall.

For Watch DOGS, it was noticed that many children are opening their own car doors when not in carline, ie, not entering or exiting the school at designated places. Also, teachers don't know a volunteer is coming to their class: planning would help with focusing the volunteer's time. More advanced scheduling would be helpful.

VIII. Building and Grounds

A. Maintenance Items

The group discussed the playground swings, sprinkler system, PA system not being in the gym, not all fire doors closing appropriately, and multiple broken gutters (in the front and the 4th grade courtyard). It was noted that a Maintenance supervisor was doing rounds, and the list of needed repairs was updated.

B. Playground Equipment

See item above.

C. Other Safety Items

i. Traffic patterns and law enforcement

It was noted that there has been much more police presence, and more cones have been placed to prevent left turns out of car lines.

ii. Epipen availability

The group discussed the lack of Epipens available for general use by for the school nurse, and Dr. Scandrol recommended reaching out to the District about a medical director.

iii. Handwashing in the nurse's office

The group discussed the need for a separate sink in the nurse's office, and it was determined that due to physical constraints, very little could be done currently.

IX. New Business

X. Public Comments

XI. Next Meeting and Adjournment

A. April 2, 2026