School Governance Council

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2025, 6:00PM | **Location:** Virtual Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **Chair John Young**. Mr. Young welcomed members, expressed appreciation for staff and teachers, and acknowledged the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks.

Mr. Young noted that this meeting served as a **combined November and December SGC meeting** due to the December meeting date falling during the week prior to winter break. The November and December agendas were therefore combined.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda as written.

- **Motion:** Karissa Reid
- **Second:** Alicia Clemmons
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously

Approval of Previous Minutes and Action Summary

The council reviewed the previously distributed meeting minutes and action summary.

- **Motion:** Karissa Reid moved to adopt the minutes and action summary as information
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously

Spring Committee Meeting Schedule

Mr. Young reviewed the spring meeting expectations and shared that committee meetings will take place as follows:

- **Outreach & Communications Committee:** January
- **Budget & Finance Committee:** February

Discussion centered on scheduling meetings **before the school day begins** to accommodate teachers and working parents. Members agreed this approach would allow meetings to conclude prior to the start of the school day. Mr. Young will send a scheduling poll to committee members.

Committee membership for the Outreach & Communications Committee was reviewed: B.Walker, Ms. Josey, Alicia Clemmons, Mr. Martinez

Superintendent Advisory Council Update

Mr. Young provided an update from the Superintendent Advisory Council, highlighting:

- District discussions regarding **artificial intelligence (AI)** use, including student data protection and instructional benefits for teachers
- Development of a district-wide AI policy
- Superintendent Dr. Looney's emphasis on **school safety, dignity, and respect**, particularly in light of the current political climate
- Guidance on managing political expression in schools in alignment with legal standards
- Encouragement for families to report concerns directly to school leadership

No questions were raised following the update.

Principal's Update – Ms. Arnisha Canty

School Climate & Community

Ms. Canty shared updates including:

- Successful holiday luncheons for families
- School Friendsgiving celebration for staff
- Appreciation expressed for staff fellowship and community-building efforts

Enrollment & Staffing

- Current enrollment: **695 students**
- **Kindergarten vacancy** created due to an internal promotion to a TAG position
- Internal candidates are being considered; external candidates will be pursued if necessary after December
- **Special Education IRR vacancy** created following Alicia Clemmons' promotion to Special Education School Improvement Coach

Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Canty reported that the school's Strategic Plan was **fully approved** by the Zone Superintendent, including the revised teacher retention target of **95%**. Approval date: **October 10, 2025**.

Academic Performance & CCRPI

- Cliftondale's **CCRPI score: 82.1 (AB)**
- Increases noted in Content Mastery, Readiness, and Closing the Gaps
- Slight decrease in Progress; overall performance remains strong
- CCRPI data reflects **FY25 results**, released publicly by the Georgia DOE
- Cliftondale recognized as a **U.S. News Top 40% School** for the second consecutive year

Upcoming School Activities

- Middle-of-the-year testing begins December 2
- Math fundraiser: December 2–16
- Holiday concert series led by the music department
- Semester celebrations: December 17–18 (by grade level)
- Distinguished on Purpose Boys Club toy drive: December 1–17

No questions were raised.

Council Initiatives

The discussion regarding new SGC initiatives was **tabled until January** to allow for review of middle-of-the-year academic data and planning aligned with upcoming Georgia Milestones.

Mr. Young noted that **$10,000 in charter funds remain available** for future SGC initiatives and encouraged members to return in January with proposals.

Charter Fund Update

Mr. Young reported that charter funds have been used to support:

- Beta Club
- PBIS initiatives
- Staff supplements
- Trunk or Treat candy purchases
- Purchase of a commercial popcorn machine
- RAZ Kids subscription

Website Audit

Mr. Young shared that the SGC website audit will be addressed at the beginning of the year, with preliminary review to occur prior to the January meeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

- **Motion:** Karissa Reid
- **Second:** Alicia Clemmons
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously

The meeting was adjourned.