School Governance Council
Executive Summary
September 24, 2025, 6:00 PM

1. What is the SGC and why does it matter? The School Governance Council (SGC) is a team of parents, staff, and community members who help make decisions that support student achievement, school culture, and family engagement at Cliftondale. The council reviews the school's goals, budget priorities, and key programs.

2. Key Topics Discussed

a. Strategic Plan for Cliftondale

The council reviewed and approved the school's updated strategic plan. This plan focuses on:

- Strengthening reading and math achievement for all students
- Reducing discipline issues and keeping students in class
- Supporting students with special needs
- Improving staff support and retention
- Using school funds wisely to benefit students
- Building stronger connections with families and the community

The plan will now be reviewed by the Fulton County Zone Superintendent. Only small adjustments may be made, if required by the district.

b. Principal's School Update (Ms. Canty)

Highlights included:

- Strong turnout for Grandparents Day, Title I Night, Curriculum Night, and PTA.
- High-quality instruction observed during recent classroom visits by district leaders.
- Enrollment remains strong; the school is adding additional gifted/TAG support due to increased student need.
- Continued focus on positive behavior, attendance, and family engagement.

c. How Charter Funds Will Be Used

The SGC approved a plan for this year's flexible school funds ("charter dollars"). These funds will support:

- The PBIS store and student incentives for positive behavior
- Literacy resources for classrooms
- Beta Club competition and academic opportunities for students
- Small stipends for teachers who sponsor after-school clubs

A portion of funds is being held in reserve for additional projects that support school goals later in the year.

d. SGC Committees
Two standing committees were confirmed:

- **Budget & Finance Committee** – reviews spending proposals and makes recommendations to the SGC.
- **Outreach & Communications Committee** – helps share information with families and the community, and supports SGC elections and surveys.

3. Upcoming Events for Families

- **District 4 Community Meeting with Board Member Francesca Warren**
  – To be hosted at Cliftondale. Families are encouraged to attend and hear district updates.
- **Trunk or Treat with Math Night "Twist"**
  – Annual fall event combined with a fun math night. The school is requesting candy donations and family participation.

4. Action Items & Next Steps

For the School & SGC

- Finalize the strategic plan with the Zone Superintendent and share the approved goals with families.
- Implement the approved charter fund initiatives (PBIS store, literacy resources, Beta Club support, club stipends).
- Keep the school website updated with SGC minutes and information.
- Schedule committee meetings (Budget & Finance; Outreach & Communications) to support ongoing work.

For Families

- Stay tuned for communication about the final school goals and ways to support them at home.
- Participate in upcoming events (District 4 Community Meeting, Trunk or Treat/Math Night).
- Consider joining PTA, volunteering, or serving in future SGC/committee roles.
- Watch for school messages and website updates with additional opportunities to get involved.

If you have questions about the SGC or would like to learn more about how to get involved, please contact the school office or an SGC member.