

SAC Meeting Notes Oct 1, 2019 – West Middle School

Attendees

Valerie Wetherby - chair
Shalah Parker
Jen Stevens
Shauna Prince
Tim Edwin
Amy Anderson
Josh Holbeck
Debora Wagner
Nancy Francis
Dave Havlic

School performance report

School is one of the top performing middle schools in the district, just behind Jenkins (see meeting notes September 2019 for run-down)

How budget works, in macro

There are different kinds of funds in the budget, some earmarked, others not... some rolls over from year to year, others not... some goes to teachers for them to use... money for curriculum or technology, etc...

One budget strategy is to hang on to money for the school year and then do some spending in advance – like the planners for each child—that was paid for out of last year’s budget...

Sometimes for consumables for one of the reading programs, we’ll spend that this year for next year...

Unforeseen expenses – example: we became an AVID school last year with tutors that come in and worked with students – district had told principal they’d be paid for, but then we got a \$6,000 bill. So unforeseen expenses DO come up.

Biggest challenge is technology funding – five years ago we had a computer for every 2 students, now we have one per student. But now we need to keep that up as technology gets updated.

We don’t have enough money to have the technology we’d like to have. The smart boards are old, for instance. Can’t even update the software.

A laptop cart is \$20,000. So much stuff has moved online, so we need to have one-to-one computers.

We’ll have ADB – quarterly language arts and math assessments coming up and we’ll be able to test the whole school at once.

We run before and after school tutoring – teachers provide that hour of tutoring – we pay the teachers extra duty pay for that. Shalah asks the district for those funds – roughly \$10K a year.

Peer coaching (for teachers) update –

- 3 x a quarter there are specific look-fors so teachers can observe each other
- Each teacher has been coached by their peer coach 3 times so far
- Teachers are enjoying having that instructional dialog w their peers. And the coaches are learning things as well.

GMP – math teacher

- The position is posted
- Salah will let us know if she needs our support
 - As a SAC, we agreed:
 - We could go to the board meeting and say we want a qualified teacher – we don't want to simply check the box to get a body in there.
 - Parents could write letters to superintendent.

Spreading SAC News

- Let's add a SAC box to the monthly school newsletter – and tell people what the topic for the next month is and ask parents if they have any questions on that topic.

Invite relevant teachers to SAC meetings

- Would like to invite some teachers to come along to relevant meetings. Salah will do this.

Staffing update

Testing is going to be a challenge as we lost our testing coordinator – Salah will have to do it, takes her away from her regular duties (and this is a months-long issue)

Middle school principals put together a proposal to ask for a stipend to pay for help – to get the student personnel coordinators back. Will see what happens.

Library – need volunteers – we lost staff in the library

- Church volunteers, maybe
- Maybe put a note at the public library
- Could ask in a Loop –
- Also Amy Tomerlin – will put a note out at the City Serve

Next meeting is November 5