

## School Council Meeting

November 9, 2017

Attending: Becky Chimera, Teah Dioguardi, Kim Hagood, Jane Husa, Alison Johnson, Jan Rooney, Brian Tomalavage

- Mrs. Hagood welcomed everyone to the meeting
- Discussed a vote on a Chair and Vice Chair: Unanimous vote for Teah Dioguardi as Chair and Becky Chimera as Vice Chair.
- Mrs. Hagood read a resignation letter from School Council member, Gurvir Sater. This leaves an opening on the School Council. The Council decided that since today's meeting is an official half-way point, we would vote to replace Mrs. Sater with the nominee with the next most votes from the previous election. Everyone present agreed, Mr. Marshall would fill the vacancy.
- We received the Leadership Qualities of a Principal form. We discussed each of the 8 sections and decided on the qualities that would be beneficial to Free Home Elem.
- Discussed the GA Parent Survey and the importance of having parents fill out the survey. We discussed various ways to promote participation including a class goal/contest for a prize (possibly ice cream) and having a give away drawing for the parents who participate. Parents could print the last page ("Thank You" page) and send it to school with their child to be entered into a drawing for prizes. It was mentioned that the computer lab could be opened before/after school for parents who do not have internet at home. Someone also suggested maybe sending home a paper copy to parents without internet and for families who speak a language other than English.
- The data discussion began with a recap of things we have done this year to involve parents and educate them on the new ELA/Reading programs. Mrs. Townley gave a presentation to parents explaining what happens during the ELA/Reading block in the classroom. The new CCRPI scores were discussed. FHES score: Low C. Council members discussed how schools were measured, focusing on attendance and growth. The demographics of the students at FHES lends itself to students not getting to school if they miss the bus. It was mentioned that school employees have gone to pick up students who can not get to school because they missed the bus and there was no other way to get to school, however, this does pose a liability issue. It was also addressed that the school growth has decreased. We as a school are looking for growth this year due to the new curriculum that includes small grouping and guided reading. There is also a focus on uninterrupted instructional time, 90 minutes for math and 120 minutes for reading. A council member asked about a mentoring program. We currently have a tutoring program after school that is being taught by certified teachers. We are waiting on final paperwork from CCSD to use retired teachers for this program. It was also discussed that we could look to parents, community members, business leaders, churches, etc. to help with this program. It was said that we have a large population of

students who receive resource help and a growing ELL population that contributes to a decline in growth. Mrs. Hagood stated that we would not use these reasons an excuse, but strive to show what FHES can do even with these areas.

- We reviewed the updated SIP
- A digital sign was discussed including ideas on how to fund it. We currently have someone looking for a used sign that is in good condition.
- Other topics that were brought up: Parent concern for bare walls in the halls and classrooms. The school has discussed cork strips and bulletin boards for the halls. These must be purchased from vendors approved by the county. The school must pay for them and the maintenance department from the county will put them up. The council discussed various ways to pay/raise money for either cork strips or bulletin boards. Another idea presented was to have a Canvas class for parents. Maybe we could open the computer lab to parents and have Frank available to help and answer questions.
- Next scheduled meeting is February 8<sup>th</sup>