

Gilbert McNeal Elementary School
School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Location: McNeal Elementary School

Attending SAC Board Members:

Principal Sheila Waid, David Havasi, Lindsay Milner and Jaime Marco

Parents and Staff Count: Approximately 25 in Attendance

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. upon the motion by Jaime Marco, seconded by Jaclyn Lubofsky. Meeting minutes from March 2024, were approved and seconded by Elena Vergnais.

2. New Business:

A. Back 3 School Bash: Back to School open house will be on Thursday, August 8th and the Back2School Bash will be on August 9th with more details upcoming. SAC will be partnering with PTO on this event, and we would love volunteers. Make sure you connect to the McNeal Families Facebook page and PTO.

B. Etiquette Tea: The SAC team would love to put together an etiquette night for students to enjoy and learn. It will be a signup only event and will be in the works. Stay tuned.

C. Family Fund/ Legacy Fund: We decided as a SAC team that we wanted to create a fund to serve students and families during difficult times. We have had a few families affected by accidents and we would love the opportunity to show some Wildcat love to them so by creating this fund, which will be housed by PTO, we can do that. More details to come.

D. Family Leader in Me Survey: We need the survey that was emailed to be filled out by all parents. It's an important piece of the Leader in Me program and we need as many parents as possible to fill this out. It's anonymous and it takes around 7 minutes to complete.

3. Principal's Report

A. Academics:

1. Mrs. Waid reported that the teacher assignments for the 2024-2025 school year will be announced as soon as she can. She is waiting on a few asks from the county and reading through parent-style letters, placing ESE children where their needs will be best met and meeting with current teachers for their input first. We are so lucky to be at

McNeal because most school's teacher assignments are chosen by a computer system and here, children are selected one by one. Mrs. McMannis reported that she has never seen such a commitment to placing kiddos in any school she has ever worked in. It's truly a labor of love. Anthony Tretolo echoed the statements that in his workplace district, they use a system controlled by percentages. Mrs. Gulbrandsen and Mrs. Freeman shared their own past experiences with their kiddos and truly trusting staff to make the right call always went in their favor for their families.

2. Testing Preliminary Reports-

-3rd grade came in 2nd out of 36 schools for ELA

-5th grade came in 2nd place behind Stewart

-5th grade came in 1st for science

-4th grade came in 7th/8th place out of 36 schools

We are very proud of our Wildcat students! Mrs. Freeman chimed in to say that she tells her students this is like the recital/soccer tournament at the end of a season, it's about doing your best and not stressing!

B. Infrastructure and Safety:

1. May looks different as far as volunteering goes due to testing. Please keep this in mind as we have plenty of time to volunteer, but we need to keep the testing month tight, so we don't have any tests called into question.

2. We hope the bollards and privacy screen fence will be here before the school year begins in August... so keep your fingers crossed. Jackie Lubofsky reported that there are potholes in the carline area and the paw prints have faded. Mrs. Waid reported that she has brought that up and as far as paw prints go, we can paint those easily. Mrs. Gulbrandsen asked if we could paint the numbers on the bollards at the front for pickup and Mrs. Waid said that's a great idea.

3. The County Commissioners did vote to extend the school zone, which is amazing! Hopefully we will see a full plan of what that entails very soon.

4. Open Discussion/ Action Items

- Brittany Stone asked about the playground dirt and Mrs. Waid said the first thing on her list to talk to PTO about his turf. We are getting turf under the Gaga pits, so it would be nice to get that on the playground as well. Mrs. Freeman did echo this and said when it's windy the sand is a lot out on the playground.

- Jaimie reported that the soccer car park will be open again to park, when it rains, they close it because it's a mud pit and people get upset when they get stuck. Please don't

park on the sidewalk or the road, you will start to get tickets. A student got hit by a car there this year because of the wild parking in these areas.

Jaime Marco thanked everyone for coming out and supporting the school by attending tonight to vote for PTO members.

5. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm upon the motion of Jaime Marco, which was seconded by Sarah Lilly.