

**Gilbert McNeal Elementary School**  
**School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, October 17, 2023**

**Location: McNeal Elementary School**

**Attending SAC Board Members:**

Principal Sheila Waid, David Havasi, Lindsay Milner

Parents and Staff Count: Approximately 24 in Attendance

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:24pm. upon the motion by Jaime Marco, seconded by Sarah Ford. Meeting minutes from September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, were approved and seconded by Sheena Jordan.

**2. Principal's Report:**

**A. Academics:**

Mrs. Waid reported the SIP to SAC for approval about a week ago. Here are the percentages from the 2022-2023 school year and the current goals for the 2023-2024 school year:

ELA: (2022-2023) 80% proficiency -----> 81% Goal (2023-2024)

Math: (2022-2023) 80-82% -----> 83% Goal (2023-2024)

Science (2022-2023) 77% -----> 80% Goal (2023-2024)

The FAST is a new test so we are waiting for learning gain percentages. Having a Learning gain just indicates each student gains a year to a year and a half per school academic year. Our current school grade remains an A. One area we have big dreams and goals in is within our ESE program. We would love to have/hire extra hands to help in our ESE program so these students can continue to gain, and we can achieve our goal from moving from a C school to a B school in the ESE Category. Mrs. Waid reported that she had met with Mr. Tatum and shared her vision and goals for the ESE program and students here at McNeal. We are hoping it can be an ongoing conversation and we can make some headway in this area. SAC previously met with both administrators and approved the SIP unanimously. All parents can find the SIP information on the McNeal website.

B. Mrs. Savarino shared the books that she would like to add to the library with the attendees and SAC. These books must be approved by SAC if they are not on the Destiny approved database. She vetted all the books based on information given to her as a media specialist. Mrs.

Savarino also encouraged parents that although books like “Captain Underpants” are the ideal books we want our kiddos to read, they are serving a purpose by bridging a gap and creating a love of reading. SAC approved all the books brought to the table for a vote. Mrs. Waid also shared how fortunate McNeal is to have a media specialist because not all schools are awarded that.

C. We are so fortunate that many teachers went through the SIPPS academic training recently. Additionally, many teachers would like to go through training with the Orton Gillingham program and we would love to see some funds allocated to this within our PTO Budget this year. This is an amazing program and students would benefit greatly.

D. As far as testing goes, science is a benchmark only assessment and will not be seen in Focus. Also, the writing assessment scores are coming soon!

### 3. Infrastructure:

A. Jaime reported that she is continuing to push the district for clay on the playground. She also shared that the SAC chairs have been invited to meet with the superintendent this week and she will report any findings at the next meeting. All SAC members met with administrators recently and took a tour of the grounds for safety discussions. If you have any questions or concerns, we would love to hear those. We love parent feedback!

### 4. Safety:

Mrs. Waid reported that there is a Traffic Garden event coming October 28<sup>th</sup> to our school grounds. Please come and let your kids learn safety tips and receive a new free helmet.

Jaime reported the grass parking lot at the park has been closed due to mud/rain. Feel free to pop in the carline and the line has gotten faster since the beginning of the year!

Mrs. Waid reported that the school counselors go into the classes a lot this year teaching lessons on safety, personal safety, friendships, phone safety based on grade level.

Jaime also reported that SAC members are examining ways to fix the loop-da-loop so cars can make that turn with more ease. Let’s hope that’s something we can get done with the district quicker than we plan!

### 4. Open Discussion/ Action Items

- Sarah Lilly asked about lockdowns and Mrs. Waid shared that if Nolan goes on a lockdown, it’s automatic that McNeal goes on one and vice versa.

Jackie Lubofsky asked if a child is having a behavior is there ever a time where one classroom goes into a lockdown. Mrs. Waid reported that’s not something that would happen. If there was a medical emergency, they would shift from one class to another

for privacy/ safety reasons. Behaviors are called into Mrs. Matazinsky or administrators and can be taken care of and brought out of the classroom quickly.

Jaime tied the meeting up by sharing how lucky we are to have such an honest and transparent administration.

5. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm upon the motion of Jaime Marco, which was seconded by Jackie Lubofsky.