

Palma Sola Elementary  
**School Advisory Council (SAC)**  
Thursday, January 23, 2020

Members present included:

Jennifer Grimes, Heather Cherry, Tabitha Hager, Cori Rigney, Melissa Mendiola, Vanessa Stillman, Donna Lesch, Chris Edwards, Brett Hubbard, Michele Pannell-Miller, and Sally Tyson

Also in attendance: Maria Israel, Maren Shaw

The meeting was opened at 6:05 p.m. by Mrs. Grimes, the school principal. She welcomed everyone and asked them to review the minutes from the October 24<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting. Erin Besaw made a motion to approve the minutes and Tabitha Hager seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by all present.

**Mrs. Grimes shared about updates to topics from the last meeting.** Only one position remains to be filled at Palma Sola, an ESE Aide. Since the last meeting an 8-hour Custodian was hired, two ESOL Aides, and one ESE aide. The Team Planning is going very smoothly. Science items were purchased for 4<sup>th</sup>, KG, and 1<sup>st</sup> grades. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade received 'Words Their Way' and the laptops are on their way. FSA materials and Science A-Z was purchased. Mrs. Grimes is looking for someone to support bottom quartile students with the remaining funds available. Mrs. Grimes had a walk-through with someone from the District to discuss technology needs for Palma Sola next year. The Showcase of Schools was attended primarily by parents of secondary students.

**Ms. Cherry talked about the School Safe Learning Environment.** The school has monthly Intruder/Lockdown and Fire drills. Law Enforcement is present during the Intruder/Lockdown drills and stays to de-brief afterwards. Overall, Law Enforcement says that all is going well with our drills. One suggestion from Law Enforcement was to have more spontaneity (teachers are aware of the day, however, not the time of the drills). The notes from the drills go to the School District and are shared with Staff.

**Mrs. Grimes explained the School Recognition Award from the State of Florida.** Palma Sola went from a school grade of a "C" to a "B" and for moving up at least on grade, the State of Florida recognizes that achievement with a monetary award. Palma Sola is receiving \$59,612.00. The funds can be used for a bonus for staff that worked at the school in the year 2018-2019, a non-recurring expenditure for educational materials, and/or temporary personnel to maintain or improve student performance. The Staff and SAC must jointly decide how to spend the funds using the criteria from the State of Florida. All plans from each grade level/department were brought to a committee chaired by Chris Edwards. The committee reviewed all the plans and came up with two proposals to be placed on a ballot. The SAC voting members include Erin Besaw, Tabitha Hager, Melissa Mendiola, Cori Rigney, and Donna Lesch. School District employees that are voting members voted during the day and receive only one vote. Mrs. Grimes thanked Chris Edwards for his work with the school committee and Erin Besaw for her work with the SAC committee. One of the proposals included money coming back to the school for the students and classrooms. On Friday morning, the committee will meet to count the ballots and reveal the results of the vote.

**Mrs. Grimes reported on upcoming assessments.** The District is reviewing the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter benchmark assessments and trying to project a final school grade. Palma Sola is currently projected to receive a high "B". This information allows Administrators to know what needs to be the focus for grades 3-5 for the upcoming FSA. There will be targeted instruction for grades 3-5. iReady Diagnostics are showing growth for grades K-5. This data provides helpful direction for leading small groups. On Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking a Writing Field Test. This serves as a Mock FSA Writing Test. The actual FSA Writing Test will be April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Proctors are always needed.

**In closing,** Mrs. Grimes and Donna Lesch shared that Palma Sola Presbyterian Church is merging/absorbing the Westminster Church in Bradenton. Both Palma Sola Elementary and Palma Sola Presbyterian are looking forward to continuing with the current relationship even with the upcoming changes for the church.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Tabitha Hager and it was seconded by Erin Besaw. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2020.