

Palma Sola Elementary
School Advisory Council (SAC)
Thursday, September 26, 2019

Members present included:

Jennifer Grimes, Heather Cherry, Tabitha Hager, Melissa Mendiola, Erin Besaw, and Sally Tyson

Also in attendance:

Paul Burghardt, Jeremy Konieczny, Joseph Lettorale, Cori Rigney, Donna Lesch, Gemma Videll-Ramsey, Kelly Balzer, Chris Edwards, Brett Hubbard, and Michele Pannell-Miller

The meeting was opened at 6:05 p.m. by Mrs. Grimes, the school principal. She introduced the Assistant Principal, Heather Cherry and the SAC chair, Erin Besaw. She asked everyone to review the minutes from the August 29th SAC minutes.

Mrs. Grimes explained the SAC membership. SAC membership consists of the PTO Executive Committee, the Principal, staff, parents, and a community representative. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend SAC meetings to ask questions, provide feedback, as well as learn more about student performance and school safety. When something comes to the SAC for a vote, only the voting members will be eligible to cast a vote. The SAC members vote on the School Improvement Plan (SIP), the distribution of School Recognition funds and other similar items that require a vote for the school. Brett Hubbard and Chris Edwards offered to represent the Palma Sola staff, Jeremy Konieczny and Gemma Videll-Ramsey offered to represent parents and Donna Lesch offered to represent the community on the SAC. Mrs. Grimes asked for confirmation of membership of the proposed slate. There was a unanimous show of hands. All are members of the 19/20 SAC. The District communicates with SAC's via a quarterly meeting at the School Support Center. Each school's SAC membership is encouraged to attend.

Mrs. Grimes shared the School Improvement Plan (SIP). The SIP provides strategies for how schools will meet their goals. The goals are driven by the expectations from the State of Florida. Mrs. Grimes discussed the goals for ELA, Math and Science. She explained how the school plans to improve proficiency at each grade as well as make learning gains for the lowest quartile students. Discussion followed regarding S.W.A.G. (Students With Academic Goals) and the misconception that it is only for lower performing students. S.W.A.G. is intended for ALL students in every grade level. S.W.A.G. time is used for remediation for some and enrichment for others. The SAC members voted unanimously by a show of hands to approve the SIP.

Mrs. Grimes reported that the school will continue monthly safety drills. A concern was shared regarding PE safety. Mrs. Grimes explained that the Specials schedule was recently adjusted, and she had not heard any negative feedback regarding the recent changes. She further explained that the State of Florida created and passed this new PE mandate and did not provide resources (funding or manpower) for the implementation of it. Suggestions and feedback are always welcome.

In closing, Paul Burghardt introduced himself. He attended Palma Sola's SAC meeting representing the Parent Task Force (PTF). The PTF is made up of SAC members from around Manatee County. The PTF will bring issues to the School Board that a SAC might have concerns about and want addressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2019.