

Braden River High School  
SAC Meeting Minutes- February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
BRHS Media Center – 6 P.M.

1) Welcome (Charity Wharton): 6:03 p.m.

\*Roll Call: 6:0 p.m.

Chair: Charity Wharton

Vice Chair: Caryn Patterson

Secretary: Kristen Toomey

Principal: Carl Auckerman

Assistant Principal: Matthew Whelden

Teacher Representative: Ricardo Robinson-Shinall

Student Representative: K. Tovar

Attendance: 17 people in attendance total

2) Approval of Minutes (Charity Wharton): 6:04 p.m.

- Minutes were motioned to be approved by C. Wharton and seconded by K. Parker. Motion was carried and minutes were approved.

3) Challenged Books (Jessica Reid – Media Specialist): 6:06 p.m.

- Board Policies & Procedures
  - o School board passed new procedure to review books...the district picks one school to review books and all schools follow the ruling
  - o This year over 30 books were challenged
  - o All records (what books are challenged, the outcome of the challenge, etc.) are published on the school board website
  - o *Juliet Takes a Breath* is the book that BRHS (Mr. Auckerman and Mrs. Reid) is reviewing
- Q: Who determines who is reviewing what book?  
A: It is done randomly based on which schools have the book.
- Q: Why was this book challenged?  
A: Pornographic content, anti-religion. To see what was challenged in the books (why they were challenged), the information can be viewed at Booklooks.org since this is where the challenger, who did not read the books, got their information.
- Q: The Freedom Diaries was removed, why? If removed from school, does it mean that you agree with it?  
A: Gang violence and drug use in the home life... the objection was that the book was promoting drug use and gangs. There was a new policy that went into effect in January that pulled that book from the schools.
- Q: Are book reviews going to be done by committees or principals?  
A: It depends on how many books are challenged on whether it will take a committee or the principal to make the decision.
- Q: Isn't there a \$100 fee if the book challenge is frivolous?

A: It has to be deemed frivolous and a form filled out by the district for the challenger to pay the fine.

Q: Wasn't there already a committee formed to help review the books?

A: A committee would have to follow state guidelines of a formal committee and hold a public meeting in order to have a legitimate review of the book under Florida sunshine laws.

Q: How long do you have to review the book?

A: 90 days.

Q: How many books are being challenged?

A: About 3-5 a week currently.

4) Principal's Report (Carl Auckerman): 6:16 p.m.

- Have anything you want to discuss? Email Whelden!
- TSA won state competition over the past weekend (February 24<sup>th</sup>)
- Arts in Motion hosted at BRHS – 55 teams to competed in Winter Guard competition. Standing room only in the gym. Two BRHS alumni were back performing with a world renown group.
- “The Addams Family” will be debuting April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>
- National Career Academy Committee (NCAC) (Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>): Teachers and administrators from all over the country came to see BRHS and learn about our academies. Lots of great feedback and compliments as well of our students and the way classes are taught.
- Senior Dates
  - o Prom: April 12<sup>th</sup>
  - o Grad Bash: April 19<sup>th</sup>
  - o AICE General Paper: April 26<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - o Senior Exams: May 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>
  - o Senior Awards: May 8<sup>th</sup>
  - o AP Exams: May 6<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>
  - o Graduation Practice: May 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>
  - o Cap & Gown Pickup: May 13<sup>th</sup>
  - o Graduation: May 14<sup>th</sup>
- Progress Monitoring Data
  - o School Projection: “B”
  - o PROJECTIONS: Social studies scores are up, graduation rate is also up (91%), acceleration (last year 66%...this year projection is 77%), juniors are taking AICE general paper which will help accreditation, math is down by -1, biology is down 11%, wild card is learning gains (there was none last year as it was the first year of the FAST reading test). Graduation rate is considered a lagging indicator as that number is from last year.
- SAC Leadership Meeting:
  - o Dr. Wysong meets with SAC leaders for breakfast
  - o Upcoming events: April 19<sup>th</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - o Charity Wharton attended in February

- Seemed unorganized because so many people there with different needs and ideas – there were about 20 SAC chairs, only two high school chairs
      - District wants to see more parent involvement at the high school level and see what parental needs are at the high school level.
    - Dr. Wysong is hosting a senior leadership meeting at Southeast High to share information on what could be better, talking college and career
      - Each high school is sending 7 students
  - Safety & Security/Facility Updates
    - No bathroom in café, students go over to auditorium to use restroom during lunch...FINALLY the new renovations should be done in the next month and a half to encompass the auditorium doors so students stay inside during lunch.
 

Q: Did the SRO have any feedback to this?

A: Not really, they agreed this is a good solution to the current problem.
    - Fencing by portables should be done soon as well to secure the portables.
    - Front office enhancements: the two swing gates are going to become magnetized for now...the hallway that goes to the rest of the office will have new door blocking it.
  - Turf Field – Start date is March 25<sup>th</sup>
    - Will include football and soccer lines, will have markers for lacrosse if the school ever has it in the future
    - Opted for striped green field in 5 yard increments
    - It will be done by August 1<sup>st</sup>
    - About 1.2-million-dollar project
    - In Manatee County, Palmetto and Manatee already have the turf field
  - Allocation & Hiring Session
    - Might hear about new allocations this Friday! Waiting to hear, but the season for hiring is soon!!!
    - Our numbers have held solid all year around 1800, we should not have any major changes.
  - March 6<sup>th</sup> – Early Release Day
- 5) Open Discussion: 6:47 p.m.
- Q: Is this the year that the COVID funds end? How does it affect BRHS?
- A: We don't know yet until the allocations are made. There are about 120 positions in the district that depend on those funds. The district will need reorganize how funding is spent to help keep those units.
- Q: Do you know how many choice slots BRHS has?
- A: 100 new students... does not including siblings.
- Q: Does the athletic department ever report to SAC? Is there an athletic budget that is review at SAC?

A: They report to the booster meetings, generally do not come to SAC. The budget for athletics comes from district and is reviewed at school level.

Q: How come football gets transportation but other sports like track, do not?

A: There was talk that each school could get a bus but each teacher would need their CDL. Overall there is not much funding left for smaller sports, to get a bus or pay for transportation.

Q: Who manages the school's Facebook?

A: Mrs. Gonzales

Motion to adjourn was made by J. Toomey seconded by C. Geiger. Meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Next Meeting: April

Minutes submitted by Kristen Toomey