



Robert E. Willis Elementary School

SAC Agenda for December 1, 2020
Virtual Meeting at 6:00 p.m.



1. Meeting Called to Order / Determination of a Quorum

2. Approval / Reading of Minutes- October, 2020

3. Principal's Report:

- a. E-Learning Update
- b. Peachjar app- pilot
- c. Reflex math
- d. Safety update

4. New Business

Agenda Items:

1. Share data and agenda from Parent Task Force meeting

5. Topics for future meetings:

6. Next Meeting Confirmation / Adjournment

- a. Next Meeting: January 26, 2021

SAC MEETING MINUTES

Willis Elementary School

December 1, 2020 | Meeting called to order by Kathy Price, Principal at 6:05 pm

In Attendance

Kathy Price, Rhonda Mau, Jennifer Danahy, Erin Corsiglia, Crystal Rothhaar, Hanna Cuervo, David Fernandez, Kelley Carpenter, Ashley McIntyre, Phil Woods,

- Quorum Determined

Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes from October 2020 meeting were reviewed. Ashley McIntyre motioned to approve. Jennifer Danahy seconded. Minutes passed without corrections.

Principal's Report

a. E-Learning update-

- a. currently 116 students in e-learning. Fl Department of Education provided guidance as of 11/30/20 as to how schools were to proceed with 3rd quarter. Manatee County School Board must submit a plan to the DOE for plans for the remainder of the school year. Once these plans are approved, planning and implementation may begin. DOE dictated that all plans must include: parental choice of learning environment (i.e.- e-learning must be an option), strict ways to monitor progress as well as identify gaps in learning. Plan must also include strategies to provide interventions to those with gaps in education and learning in both the brick and mortar model and e-learning.
 - b. Students will be allowed to return to B&M learning option at any time moving forward. They will likely have stricter criteria to move back into e-learning at current school if they wish to do so. Parents of students that are on e-learning and are not passing or attending classes or completing coursework will be given options of returning brick and mortar, homeschooling, Manatee Virtual, etc. This will be determined by the district plan that will have to be approved by FLDOE.
 - c. There may be a need to shift any remaining e-learners to a cluster school e-learning teacher based on enrollment. Mrs. Price will send out a communication survey to e-learners once more details are given from the district with criteria requesting notification of if students wish to return to campus. Classes will then be modified and staffing needs addressed at that time.
 - d. Willis is already implementing progress monitoring and testing to identify learning deficits. STAR reading assessments, iReady, Reflex math, Acaletics (4th and 5th grade), District Benchmark testing, teacher progress monitoring.
 - e. Superintendent is thankful to the SAC board and Willis parents who sent letters in support of continuing waivers for e-learners and the overwhelming support helped guide the governor and the Education superintendent to allow for continued e-learning.
- b. Peach Jar communications- new online/email option to disseminate information that would typically be sent home with paper flyers. Willis is piloting the program and will be sending communication using FOCUS email provided by parent. Peach jar will also be used to send out school specific communications, however currently it takes about 1 week for approval of all school specific communications to be approved by district to be sent via peach jar. Goal is to cut that time down to make using this platform more efficient for our school staff/admin.

- c. Reflex math- new educational program purchased this year to help with math fluency facts for all grades. This has been helpful with ability to encourage math improvement as well as monitor progress with math fluency. Math is a strong focus to bring up learning deficits this year. (see data from Parent Task Force meeting below). We have Acaletics and reflex math to provide targeted instruction.
- d. Safety update- no safety issues since last meeting. New phone system being installed this week. New phone system will allow for each room to dial direct to 911 with communication being available to emergency responders of exact location of room, room number and will provide them with detailed map of school. First responders will know exactly where to go when responding to an event and this will allow for faster response times.
- e. Winter Wonderland- School will be participating in a spirit week of "Winter Wonderland" the final week before school goes on winter break. Each day will have a different theme and students will be allowed to dress up and participate in various activities planned by the school. Information will be coming home via new Peach jar communication system.
- f. Willis received "Golden School Status" State recognition award for volunteer hours for the 2019-2020 school year. Willis met or exceeded requirements for parent volunteers based on school enrollment. Thank you parents!!!
- g. Runners Club has been a huge success- 150 kids at first runners club. Hopes to resume some outdoor school sanctioned activities.

New Business-Agenda Items

- 1. Parent Task Force meeting update- by Crystal
 - a. Data was provided in regards to learning losses throughout Florida and more specifically Manatee county.
 - i. Data looked at ELA and Math proficiency as well as learning gains in each area. Data was significant that e-learners have significant learning losses and decreased proficiency when returning from e-learning to brick and mortar setting when compared to students who were brick and mortar since the beginning of the school year.
 - ii. Overall Manatee county has less learning losses in ELA and Math when compared to state data. Most important observation is that students returning to B&M from e-learning will likely need more supplemental learning to help with the transition.
 - iii. Math learning gains (losses) as well as Math proficiency were the most affected. 41% of students who went from e-learning to B&M were grade level proficient in math as compared to 61% of students who were 100% B&M since start of school year. Math learning gains showed 36% in e-learning to B&M vs 65% in full time B&M.
 - iv. Data for reading not as significant with losses, however task force and school district feel that reasons behind this that reading is easier for parents to help teach in a home environment vs math.
 - b. Mask update: school board voted to continue with mask mandate. Changes that have been put in place: mandatory mask breaks for students. Masks are no longer required for outside classes, outdoor PE, outdoor recess and any outside school activities. Face Shields may be used indoors instead of a mask. School cases have increased in correlation with overall community increase in cases. Schools are allowed to manage mask mandates as is needed as long as they follow guidelines.
 - c. Recent evaluation of students Social-Emotional skills. Surveys have been provided to some students and data was looked at both locally and nationally.
 - i. 41% of students felt connected to another student
 - ii. 31% felt connected to a teacher

- iii. Nationwide 85% of students met criteria for mental illness compared to 1930's and 1940's guidelines
- iv. High school students' anxiety symptoms are equal to those in a psychiatric patient in the 1950s.
- v. Lack of Social-Emotional skills impacts overall success in life. Academic skills only account for 33% of future success.
- vi. School board is implementing program called Characterstrong.com It will focus on different character traits each month. Willis has already implemented this program with assistance of guidance counselors.
- vii. This data began prior to COVID, so we are unsure how much more this had impacted our students/youth.

Committee Concerns/Topics for future meetings

1. Assessments will begin next week for STAR reading testing and iReady testing will be completed in January 2021.
2. Current Computer ratio is 1:1 for students in 1st -5th, which has allowed for safety of students. There is no longer a need to go to computer lab for testing. We may need to adjust when e-learners return.
3. Future topics to be discussed
 - a. E-Learning updates
 - b. Resumption of activities- possibility of Field Day as parents are now allowed back at outdoor campus activities.
 - c. Any needs for curriculum, programs, and technology from teachers and how PTO may be able to provide help.

Next Meeting

January 26, 2021 at 6:00 pm. Meeting location vs Zoom/Teams meeting will be determined closer to meeting date.

Motion to adjourn by Ashley McIntyre, second by Jennifer Danahy. Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm
Minutes submitted for approval by: Jennifer Danahy