

## SAC Minutes August 28, 2019

### 1. **Welcome - Call to Order - Mr. Richardson**

We have some special guests with us today. We'd like to welcome Mrs. Saunders, our Superintendent; Mr. Rio, the Executive Director of Elementary Education; Mr. Sauer, the Supervisor of Student Demographics, Projections, and Assignment and Rev. Golden, the representative for our area. Welcome everyone!

### 2. **School Advisory Council Current Members**

We would like to introduce our current SAC representatives:

President - Mrs. Kristina Engelsberg

Vice President / Recording Secretary - Mrs. Sasha Corbo

It is routine to elect our representatives at the beginning of the school year, so we will have an election at our next meeting on September 25th. Please fill out a ballot if you are interested in being a voting member.

- SAC statues state that we need to have a roster of 10 voting members.
- The voting members need to represent the demographics of the school.
- SAC is compromised of staff, community members and parents.

### 3. **Security Policies: Level 2 Screening** (8 and counting already completed)

- A. **Can you explain the new policy, what does it mean for room parents, helping in the hallways and helping with PTO?** Due to the Jessica Lunsford Act, anyone coming onto or campus must be screened in through the office. This is a level 1 screening. Volunteers are not allowed to be alone in the hallways without level 2 screening. Level 2 provides a criminal background check, it is a much more elaborate check.
- Watch Dogs will need to be level 2.
  - Room parents, chaperones on field trips and parents working in the classroom will just need level 1, as long as a teacher is present.

This is not a new policy, we are just enforcing it this year.

- B. **If a parent is level 2 screened does that cover any other volunteers that may be working with them?** If someone is a level 2, other parents working with them do not have to be. However, they will fall under the responsibility of those volunteers with level 2.
- C. **How does the school know who is level 2?** The district emails the school once level 2 is achieved.
- D. **What happens if a parent is at lunch and wants to head back to the classroom to help?** The parent can come up to the office, sign out from lunch and sign in to the classroom. This is all ok to do with level 1.
- E. **What is the cost and how long does it last?** \$80 and it will last 5 years. It can be used at multiple schools across the district. Eventually we will begin to do background checks on campus.
- F. **What happens if there are parents who want to help, but can't afford it?** Perhaps PTO can set up a fund.
- G. **I heard about the possibility of a more affordable midrange option, can you share more information about that?** It will definitely be more affordable, perhaps \$25, but it will only last through the end of the current school year. We are still working on this option.

We need to know where the adults, on campus, are during the day. Anything that happens on campus is Mr. Richardson's responsibility. We've been discussing threat assessment at our principal meetings and things have to evolve. We need to have the same criteria for all visitors/volunteers. The district will verify all drills and procedures are being upheld and the state is holding all schools accountable to keep our students safe.

### 4. **Golf Carts** - According to Deputy Hernandez, it is a county ordinance that golf carts need to be tagged and have insurance to be on the road. What changed? There is a new school next door with law enforcement on its

campus. We can't have golf carts driving through their campus and they are not allowed on Rangeland, 44th and White Eagle. This information came from the sheriff. Policies have been put in place at Mona Jain and we are trying to maintain similar policies. Mr. Kelly, the director of risk assessment has said no golf carts as it's too much liability to have them on campus. Given the presence of law officials, if they see something, they must act on it. There shouldn't be golf carts on the Mallory Park sidewalk either, as the sidewalk isn't wide enough for them. They need to be street legal and they would have to go through car line but still can't because of the restrictions on the surrounding streets. DOT has to approve the streets and signs would be posted, showing that golf carts are allowed. There was a proposal for a golf cart lane at school, but that won't be happening.

5. **New Bike Rack** - Safe Routes to School is donating 3 new bike racks and PTO is paying for new fencing. This will double the size of our current bike rack. We will be adding it right next to the current bike rack.

#### 6. **Gullett Growth** – New Allocations

We currently have just about 1200 students enrolled. At the end of the last school year the projections allocated 1135 students to Gullett. We will be hiring for 6 new units:

Kindergarten - 2 teachers

First - 1 teacher

Second - 1 teacher

Third - 1 teacher

Fourth - 1 teacher

Where are we going to put these classes? We are working to find all available space. We can use the ESE pre-k classroom, computer labs and perhaps get more portables.

#### 7. **Plan for the Future to Address Growth**

- A. **Mrs. Saunders** - As of Friday, the ESE pre-k class will be moved to Freedom Elementary. Florida funds K - 12 education, the Early Learning Coalition funds Pre-K. Once a school is overcapacity, they can no longer house any pre-k classes. The class must be moved to a cluster school, in this case Freedom Elementary. We want to get classes to a more appropriate size. We watch trends and after building the new wing, we anticipated Gullett would be okay. Numbers are based on computer models and this is an oddity. Kindergarten trends are declining, but it's always hard hard to predict Kindergarten numbers. Most of the growth has been occurring in the secondary schools. The district is down 300 students, but not at Gullett. Three years ago, Gullett was not at capacity and eleven years ago, the district had to find kids to come to this school. Some children pass three schools, which doesn't make sense now, but it made sense eleven years ago. We are going to be looking at how long children are riding the bus and find better options.
- B. **Mr. Sauer** - (Presented a map of the district) Manatee county was on the forefront of school choice. We started in 1998 and we were a model district. It has helped our district in many ways. We have kept with the same rules from the 90s, while putting in a few changes. When a school is over-capacity, choice is closed out. Gullett is at 1200, but it was built for 980. We need to make changes. We anticipated 49,075 students this school year and at the 10 day count, we came in at 49,077. There are a ton of families coming in and a ton leaving, just not from this area. We have to look at the population makeup, ESE/gifted/non-speaker, to get a model district wide. We are not looking to create zones, but rather alter the existing zones. We will assess if there is room in a school closer to where the students live. Committees will be formed with 3 parents, 3 teachers and 1 administrator. Our job is to do to what is best for all the schools. We will be looking at renovations. We just renovated Bashaw, there are open seats. We're about to renovate Witt, which will have available seats. These zone changes will not take effect until next school year. Recommendations have to be made and 3 of them will be taken to the school board and a vote will occur, hopefully, before December.

**Q: Will Gullett be closed to siblings outside of the zone?** Yes, after the rezoning we will be closed to siblings for choice.

**Q: Will current students who are no longer in the zone, be allowed to stay next year?** That will be decided.

**Q: Will another Elementary school be built?** There may be a need for another school but not now because there are 300 empty seats. We will see once we level things out and clean up the zones.

**Q: How does the district work with developers?** There is a formula for figuring out numbers, assessment of new allocations and needs for a new school.

**Q: How are impact fees used?** If there is a renovation in West Bradenton, we can't use impact fees. They are only used in areas of new growth.

**Q: Will the new classes all be new units or will there be any team teach models?** There are 17 displaced teachers and 90 openings district wide. We will start with those displaced teachers and look to hire outside if necessary, to start in October. We shall see what happens.

**Q: Are the doors to the outside wing locked during the day?** The doors to the wing lock once school officially starts. The children use key cards from their classrooms to transition between buildings and there are doorbells into a classroom in each building.

- C. **Rev. Golden** - Initially, lines were drawn in our district to address racial disparity. The issue is not color, it's quality. Every child in manatee county should be allowed to have access to the education that children get at Gullett. We are all one county. Look at this as a chance for us to grow and our children to grow. The hard part still lies ahead, but this is a great school! I will be at the Lakewood Ranch Y to meet on 9/5,9/17,10/3 and 10/17 between 6 and 8.

**8. SIP Goals for 2019-2020 school year** - Please look through the goals and we will vote on them at the next meeting. We are top third rated school in the district. Every grade is doing well. We want to thank you. You are great!

**9. Specials Rotations** - PE Mandatory 150 minutes per week - The state mandates 20 minutes of PE everyday and 150 minutes a week of physical activity. We hired a fourth PE coach this year. Four classes go to PE and the extra 2 PEs are divided amongst the other 4 classes. The children will go to STEM, Art and Music four times a quarter.

**Q: Are the children allowed to bring water bottles to PE?** Yes, and there are fans on the covered areas. Media has a separate schedule this year, but teachers and Mrs. Lemke will work together. The students will come to Media just as much as last year, if not more. Plus, there are open media times available now. This is a real opportunity for those students who read through their books quickly. Media has had a positive change.

**10. SAC Elections** - Please fill out the nomination form and the election will occur at our next meeting.

**11. 5 Star School** - We will keep our 5 star status for this year.

**12. Motion to adjourn the meeting:** 1st Mrs. Engelsberg, 2nd Mrs. Holland

**Meeting Adjourned!**