

FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SAC MEETING

January 25, 2022

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 6:09 pm.

MEETING AGENDA – Welcome, Principal update, Questions

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members Present: Nadia Wood (SAC Chair), Amber Maltby (Secretary), Jeffrey Wilson (SAC Co-Chair), Jen Franczyk, Martha Fleming, Beth Cendere, Jessica Esposito, Gisela Lopez, Ne Wilmaura Nieves

Active Participants: Guy Grimes, Michele Danowski

AGENDA ITEMS

1) Welcome & Call to Order – Nadia Wood. All voting members were present.

2) Principal Update- Construction

- New building to expand Freedom Elementary was approved by the county.
- 8 pack building with each room having individual restroom as well as 2 additional Restrooms with access from the outside for use during PE and after school events.
- Location is TBD, either where existing portables are or where existing large playground is.
- New playground will be built after the new building is completed
- February surveying will begin
- May/June construction will begin and continue for 6-12 months depending on what will be done with the existing portables (moving or destroying them)
 - Q- Nadia Wood: What will recess look like for the older grades without the playground?
 - A- Dr. Grimes: They will have options of the fields, covered areas and will have schedules worked out to allow those to accommodate recess.
 - Q- Nadia Wood: Will there be enough classrooms to move the classes in the portables into the main building during construction?
 - A- Dr. Grimes: There may need to be a shift in some things, but currently there are 5 empty classrooms and there are 7 needed. It can be done.

3) Principal Update – Virtual Room

- Freedom is unable to do a virtual room due PG rating of videos that would be shown. There are no G versions available.
- Nadia Wood: Could we add to the new playground that will be rebuilt with the funds intended for the virtual room?

- Dr. Grimes: We will need approval for the exact items wanting to be added. There is a district catalog with playground equipment to look through and the ability to submit a request with details of anything not in the catalog.
- There will be playground items for proposal at the next meeting

4) Even schedule changes

- Father/Daughter Dance rescheduled due to District COVID protocols. PTO will work with Admin to identify new dates for Father/Daughter dance and Mother/Son night
- School bonfire has been rescheduled to March 4th
- Looking positive that no other events will need to be rescheduled

COVID Update

- County is taking it week by week in deciding what is cancelled and what is restricted
- Q- Nadia Wood: Are the Covid call outs required still?
- A- Dr. Grimes: Students with direct exposure are being notified as opposed to the entire school. This is at the discretion of the principal.

5) District SAC Call – Nadia Wood

- Attending are Principals and Chairs from all Elementary, Middle, and High Schools
- New construction was addressed, and Freedom mentioned on the list.
- School grades have placed Manatee County schools 23rd in the State of Florida out of 62 counties.
- 2 years without rating a “D” county
- Possibility for Manatee County to have an “A” rating this year, which has never happened.
- New strategic plan for grade level reading and increasing graduation rate
- Curriculum change: No common core, transitioning

6) PTO

- Grant discussions
- Profits from end of 2021 events

ADJOURNMENT – meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

The next SAC meeting is scheduled for March 29th at 6pm. Administration will communication closer to the date whether this meeting will be in person or virtual.