

SAC Meeting Minutes August 22,2024

Attendees: Mendy Nelson, Lois Skaf, Rachael White, George Miller, Carlyn Herring, Tonya Player, Libby Catto, Dr. Mike Galbreath, Regina Notarianni, Christine Bartz

Meeting was called to order at 3:31 pm by Mrs. Nelson

3:33 Welcome and Introductions:

- Mrs. Nelson greeted our SAC Chairpeople and thanked them for attending

3:33 Election of SAC Officers:

- SAC Chairperson nominee...Melinda Nelson
- Secretary....Regina Notarianni
- Nominees were voted in unanimously!

3:34 Share dates for future SAC meetings (Nov. 7th 3:30, Jan. 16th 3:30, March 6th 3:30, April 10th 3:30, May 22nd 3:30):

- Dates are on our calendar and on our website
- Mrs. Nelson is getting better at communicating with the community to let everyone know when we are meeting :-) Thanks Mrs. Nelson!

3:36 DAC Representative:

- George Miller was nominated as DAC Representative unanimously and will attend those virtual meetings for PIE

3:45 Safety and Campus Updates at PIE :

- Dr. G spoke about the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool - a breakdown of what the campus looks like, infrastructure, locations for safety, SRO information, transportation etc...to ensure we are taking care of our students at PIE.
- We have a full time SRO on campus
- We have 55 cameras on campus / actually 115 views of the campus

- Open Gate Weapons Detection System at entrances
- All doors to all classrooms must be locked according to State Law, but here at PIE we have been doing that for a while now
- Staff has Centegix badges on their person at all times which has a button that when pressed 3 times-the safety team responds to that location. When pressed 8+ times, that is a full lockdown alert with strobe lights in all areas of the campus, announcements and triggers the police department to come to our school. The safety team gets a response on their phones to show where the emergency is.
- Drills - Fire Drills are now 6 times a year. Lockdown Drills are 6 times a year. We also have bomb drills and tornado drills throughout the year
- Additional Measures to help with safety and security. We are aware there are no fences by the cafeteria doors or the office. Dr. G is writing a grant to get money to get the fencing.
- Campus updates: Restroom in cafeteria, new sewer pipes to replace the original pipes. Because of their degradation, bathrooms in some of our buildings are not usable. Some classroom teachers will need to move classrooms so this project can take place. We are looking for this project to start in October. Dr. G has asked that once these improvements are made, that our campus is put back the way it has been as far as trees etc...Rich Barber is working on communicating with the construction company about our campus concerns
- Rachael White asked if the grant does not cover the fencing, PTO and the community might be able to assist with the cost. Thank you!

3:54 Updates for the School Year - Status of the School (enrollment, classroom units, teachers...):

- We are off to an awesome first couple of weeks.
- All of our classrooms have qualified teachers who are wonderful additions to our staff!
- Enrollment is down. We ended the year at about 250 students. Our current enrollment is at 227. We were budgeted for 249 students. With a lack of ESSER

funds, our district is pinching pennies so there is a concern when we find out the impact after our 10 day count (8/23/24)

- Dr. G is committed to 2 teachers per grade level, he can not justify having 30+ students in a classroom. He believes in the small class size.
- Rachael White questioned if there was an exiting questionnaire for parents who leave the school/school district. There is not, however, Rosie Perez, our Information Specialist, is usually aware of the circumstances.

4:01 State Testing Data/School Improvement Plan Review:

- Dr. G. expressed his love for our little school, he feels very lucky to be here. Before he took the job at PIE district personnel suggested PIE could be a “D” school, they asked if he was up to the challenge. He of course said yes. Yay!
- There is a dramatic decrease to school grades across Lee County. Lee county always compared themselves to the big 10 counties across the state. PIE went from a very top ranking school 10 years ago to now being close to the bottom. Potential reasons: curriculum changes every few years, the district is running after the magic curriculum. The teacher shortage is another issue, it is hard to find high quality teachers. We are lucky to have hired talented teachers this year.
- ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies Data results show although we have made gains the school district is trailing state averages.
- [2024-25 PIE School Grade/Data Review](#)
- Rachael White noted the data is being lumped with so many different demographics and contributing factors that it is comparing Apples to Oranges.
- Tonya Player noted in a small school one or two students can make a huge difference in the data.
- The School Grading system has changed many, many times over the years including this year. Elementary Schools can earn up to 800 points; points derived from being on grade level, learning gains, and learning gains from the lowest 25% of students. There are multiple ways to gain or lose points. We ended with

50.25% which according to last year's grading standard was in the B range, this year this percentage is in the C range.

- Students testing are those from the Covid years, where they lost a half year due to the pandemic, came back wearing masks, were given an entirely new test and are now taking said test on the computer. Not to be overlooked, the grading system added more components to measure success.
- School Improvement Academic and Behavioral Goals were reviewed. Dr. G. feels the improvement is very doable.
- [Copy of 2024-2025 PIE SIP goals](#)
- Rachael White expressed the data is not an accurate representation of the school. She asked what this data means to us as school employees? Does the school receive more funding based on school grades?
- School grades do nothing to benefit the school. We need to look at the big picture. We have students coming from different countries not speaking the language, students who have never been in a school environment, some with unstable home environments, those who are still displaced and recovering from the hurricane.
- Mendy Nelson, Literacy Coach, expressed that while we have challenges because we are a small school, we have amazing teachers, staff and principal.. Staff members working behind the scenes to help our students succeed. Not to mention very good community support.
- Christine Bartz, Educator, feels these tests are not fair, we set out students up for failure, community members agreed.
- Carlyn Herring, community member, expressed no matter who you are, you can not lose sight that the test is one day out of an entire school year.
- We will have tutoring this year, in the mornings before school starts.
- George Miller, community member and volunteer, is surprised to see the breakdown of the School Grade. He expressed concerns of a computer test and students unable to work through problems without pen and paper.

4:54 Good of the Order

- **Upcoming events**

- August 28 & 29 Volunteer Training
- September 9th -Grandparents day
- State Testing: Progress Monitoring Sept 3/ Reading, Sept 10/ Math
- Curriculum Night - September 26
- Community Day - October 1
- Kiwanis is hosting a Bike Rodeo -September 2, from 11-4
 - This is to raise money to put a shade structure over the playground.

Motion to adjourn at 4:48 by Carlyn Herring, Christine Bartz seconded.

The next SAC meeting will be held on Nov. 7, 2024 at 3:30 PM at PIE's media center.