

Chattahoochee/Northview Cluster Advisory Council
May 3, 2007
Shakerag Elementary School
Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Sharon Albright.

In attendance:

Christine Neely – Dolvin ES LSC rep.
Dawn Melin – River Trail MS, Principal
Toni Raabe – Dolvin ES LSC chair
Marie Shelton – Dolvin ES, Principal
Tim Duncan – Chattahoochee HS, Principal
Ed Williamson – Taylor Rd. MS, Principal
Kelley Butcher – Shakerag ES LSC
Susan Auerbach – Northview Cluster Co-chair, Shakerag ES LSC
Sharon Albright – Chattahoochee Cluster Co-chair, TRMS LSC chair, CHS LSC
Jo Dills – Northview Cluster Co-chair
James Wilson – FCSS Superintendent
Ranee Nagler – FCSS Area Superintendent
Doug Brown – Barnwell ES, Principal
Trey Martin – State Bridge Crossing ES, Principal
Margaret Pupillo – Medlock Bridge ES, Principal
Jimmy Zoll – Wilson Creek ES, Principal
Peter Zervokas – Northview HS, Principal
Jan Linscott - Ocee ES, Principal
Cindy Bush – Findley Oaks ES LSC rep.
Steve Curry – Findley Oaks ES, Principal
Roytunda Stabler – Abbotts Hill ES, Principal
Amy Sabath – Abbotts Hill ES LSC chair
Carolyn Briner – Ocee ES LSC rep.
Gail Salva – Ocee ES LSC chair
Kim Poole – Autrey Mill MS LSC chair
Ann Dantzler – Chattahoochee HS parent

Minutes from the March 22, 2007 Cluster Meeting were approved.

SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOOLS:

Wendy McCarron –Vertical Team Advisor and Northview HS Mathematics Teacher **see notes**

Ms. McCarron stated that 150 teachers have been involved over the past 5 years in vertical teaming. . Bev Miller, previous Northview Cluster Chair, started the vertical teaming conversations 5 years ago. GPS has been their focus most recently. Their goals include a seamless cross-curricular curriculum and maintaining high expectations for student learning. They now have lesson plans, etc. on the web for sharing. Math seems

to be a major concern. Our clusters are very tuned in to the problems in GPS and have even pointed out “holes” to the state. It is an adjustment for our students and teachers.

GUESTS:

James Wilson, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Wilson gave an overview of the school year. He stated that there have been a lot of things that our schools were recognized for. He said the county is always looking for ways to take it to the next level and make improvements and that they are looking to see where they want to be in 5 years.

Cabinet has identified “Areas of Emphasis” on work in progress on most areas. Those areas are listed below:

SAP – business systems are being updated and integrated in all offices to improve efficiency and provide real time data.

SAMS- Student Achievement and Management System. This is a very valuable tool for teachers and principals to see where students need help in all areas.

Professional Development – opportunities for administrators, staff and teachers to learn.

GPS – Staff is developing more new curriculum for roll out. Our county is a model for the state in how we have handled this.

ELL – goal to identify and place as fast as possible. Math is an area of concern. These students tend to be very transient which poses multiple problems.

Instructional Coaches – Two years ago, these positions were put into school that had a lot of Title I kids. The program is going well. The schools with AYP problems all had just one area except one school that did not meet in all areas. That school had 83-85% transience. County involved social workers an attendance increased. That very positively affected the school.

Connected Academy – opening in the fall of '07 to 11th and 12th graders.

Distance Learning – technology in HS priority. 100 students are currently participating. There is a program between Alpharetta HS and Georgia Tech. There are students from Westlake participating through the virtual classroom/video streaming.

Technology – classroom technology is priority because of the changing way that our kids learn. Education foundation is bringing people in to tell us what we need to do and how to do it correctly.

Andy Ross, Fulton Educational Foundation

Andy Ross outlined the changes to the members of the school council. The council still needs a minimum of 7 members; 1 principal, 2 certified teachers, and the rest of the members to be made up of parents with at least two being business persons. The chairperson must be a parent. Andy will revise the script for school trainings, the training DVD for school councils and the “School Councils – A Guide for Members”.

Randee Nagler, Area Superintendent

The new Johns Creek High School is scheduled to open in August 2009. The Principal is to be named in fall of 2008. Redistricting meetings for the school will take place either in

the spring or fall of 2008. Randee stated that the county will hopefully start on the project in mid May. Other high school principals have been very supportive and helpful in the transition.

Accolades for the clusters:

- Chattahoochee HS received the Region 6 AAAAAA Championship for Sportsmanship. There were only 2 schools out of 12 in the region to even qualify for this award. Northview was the other school.
- Messenger award was given by the Press Association to the Northview Student Newspaper. They received the Best Layout and Design award, as well as Best HS Newspaper in Georgia.
- River Trail MS had the FCSS Middle School Teacher of the Year. Abbots Hill ES had the Elementary School Music Teacher of the Year.
- Kathy Theisen, Chattahoochee Cluster Chair, was recognized at the first annual Johns Creek Mayor's Ball for her work for education over the past several years.

Randee Nagler said the county has purchased land for a high school on the West side of 400. She said the budget is on the county website for viewing. \$72M has been found to help keep programs and people in place. She said there have discussion about rolling back of millage rate. The Clusters, as a whole, oppose the roll back and the negative impact it would have on programs in the schools.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Dills
Northview Cluster Co-chair