

Northwestern Middle School
School Governance Council
October 12, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to Order at 9:32 a.m. by Kevin Locke, SGC Chair. Roll Call by Katherine Wickliffe. A quorum of members was present for the October 12, 2018 Open to Public Council meeting held in the Media Center.

Attendance

Charles Chester, School Principal
Deana Skimel, Appointed Staff
Tara Spolan, Elected Parent
Maria Lorza, Elected Parent
Kevin Locke, Appointed Staff

Mary Olson, Elected Teacher
Gloriaellis Mattei, Community Member
Ashley Poston, Elected Teacher
Barb Halbert, Community Member

Public Comment:

- None

Action Items:

- Approved agenda for October 12, 2018 meeting – Motioned by Spolan and Skimel
- Approved Minutes for September 14, 2018 meeting – Motioned by Poston and Lorza
- Flexible Funding - \$12,732 remaining from last year and awarded \$70,000 for this year. Approved Flexible Funds expenditures: (Halbert, Olson)
 - \$1185 for Luggage Tags for backpacks- Reusable with name and homeroom teacher on each bag.
 - \$2576 (\$1288 each) –Instructional Support teachers for Science

Discussion Items

Cross Council Training Event (Chester and Spolan)

- SGC's now have a Monitoring Tool for our Strategic Plan. Admin will work on data input during their meetings
- A scorecard has been implemented to make sure we are completing mandatory tasks from the county. Freddie takes care of data input.

Student Achievement Outcome 2 Discussion –

- We are allowed to make changes
- We will meet Friday the 19th at 8am to discuss. Each member needs to bring 1 idea about the metrics to the table, Freddie will meet with those who are able that afternoon to go over possibilities

RFF

- 2014 NMS submitted to have World Language Course waiver, no need to resubmit since there is NO need for a waiver anymore- any child can take it.
- Voted to not submit a RFF - Skimel, Poston

Science

- Locke and Chester have been visiting to check in with students. Students have been worrying about their grades since they have a long-term substitute. Students can recover as much as they want to. The NMS teachers are going in to support. Teachers shouldn't talk

for 50 mins straight. It should be 15 min talk, then workshop labs. Classes are combined and NMS teachers are making it work.

Principal Update:

- Fulton County Bus Tour visited NMS, Mimosa and Johns Creek. We had a great visit from our board members and district leaders a couple of weeks ago and we got great compliments regarding students, teachers, and the work of this council as it aligns to student achievement. Board visited
- CCRPI scores will be released in a few weeks. Our students improved, but we aren't sure how that will translate to the new calculation system.
- Our students identified their trusted adults in the building a few weeks ago. Every staff member has access to the full list.
- PBIS – We should be moving from emergent to operational. Last year we were 5 people shy of completing staff surveys. All other indicators placed us at operational. Starting conversations about “Mindfulness”. Working with LRJ Foundation and hope to have a speaker come to the school.
- Non-Graded formative check-ins implemented by many teachers. We want to create a safe place for students to show proficiency levels so that teachers can leverage remediation and enrichment during the school day.
- Our teachers are utilizing data more strategically to offer students support during the school day.
- Lunch Bunch with Michelle Robbins and Star- Both programs are kicking into full swing now that all of the diagnostic testing is wrapping up.
- RFF - This year are 8/31, 10/9, 3/12 and 11/1 and 2/6 for conferences. This past FRD teachers worked on the standards mastery framework modules. Staff will push out sign-up sheets for parent conferences in next week or two.
- Communication – Assessing and will be sending out surveys to get a better idea of what works best for students and families.
- Safety and Security: Feed a cop program participation is increasing and lunch bunch mentor talks are continuing with our faith based partners

Information Items

- No report from Finance or Outreach
- PTO – Budget still down about \$4000, Exec. Board reworking budget now for a vote at next meeting. Look for Teacher Mini Grants Application in next 2 weeks.
- Superintendent's Parent Council –
 - County working on calendar for next school year. Visit a School Board member meeting to see and add comment.
 - Property Tax caps are on November ballot. Caps are based on lowest rate assessed in past 3 years. Even though county is bringing in more money, Fulton County School will be over budget for at least the next 3 years. Mostly due to Teacher retirement System. Remember teachers do not pay into or receive Social Security.
 - Attracting and retaining teachers remains a high priority to fulfill the Culture and Climate part of the County's Strategic Plan. After 5 years of retention the chances of the teacher staying increases dramatically.

Announcement and Adjournment:

- Next meeting will be November 9, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. in Media Center.
- Agenda items for next meeting – Flexible Funds, Communications Committee report, Parent University Topics, Parent Survey results for school communications and SGC Committee trainings
- Meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.