

Barnwell Elementary School

SGC Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2020

Council Members Present for the September 11, 2020 TEAMS Meeting: Martin Neuhaus, Kristy Dell'Orto, Karla Lazzari, Jessica Nelson, Stephanie Beckles, Breana Rounds, Allison Townsend, Donald Albright, Nik Volkov, and Tomario Rowe.

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: Erin King

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:48 p.m.

II. Actions Items

Approve the September 11, 2020 Amended Agenda. A motion was made by Jessica Nelson to approve the Amended Agenda. The motion was seconded by Breana Rounds. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approve the August 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Breana Rounds to approve the Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Tomario Rowe. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Discussion Items

A. Principal's Report

URL/Phase 1

- Phase 1, currently in session, includes 90 minutes, 1 day per week, for interested students in Pre-K through 2nd grade.
- Phase II will be skipped.
- Phase III will begin on September 21 for all interested Pre-K through 12th grade students, with 25% of each class one day per week.
- Phase IV is anticipated to start on October 5, with 50% of each class two days per week.
- Students will be assigned to days based on last name for Phases III and IV
- Face to Face is anticipated to begin on October 14. All students can return.
- The Universal Remote Learning option will be removed for at least the rest of this semester. It remains to be seen about URL for second semester.
- Parents will be asked to make a choice between online learning and face to face beginning October 14.
- Staffing adjustments will be made at the school level to accommodate students.

- If a parent does not select face to face or online learning, the student will default into face to face learning. Parents must opt out of face to face.

Staffing Update

- There are no staff changes after the 10-day count but some changes may occur closer to October 14.

Next Steps Conversation – Racial Equality

- Barnwell staff encourages the idea of morning meetings to let each and every student know they have a voice, they matter, and are cared for at school.
- Recent events show there are students that are hurting and it is important that staff listens.
- Staff members met over the summer to discuss racial injustice and how important it is to develop positive relationships with students.
 - Staff wants to educate themselves and do a better job of understanding how students are feeling so they can be the best teachers for all students, no matter what their personal experiences are.
 - Staff must make sure they respond to students in a fair and equitable manner.
 - Teachers must adhere to the current curriculum.
- Summit Counseling Center has agreed to assist with next steps conversations regarding racial equality.
- Any council members interested in assisting with further conversations should contact Martin Neuhaus.

Greg Tang Math

- Barnwell PTO paid for this program.
- Teachers like the new strategies and these strategies help students understand what they are doing instead of repeating actions over and over.
- Students seem to like the new strategies.
- There are many on-demand resources available for teachers.
- There is a parent workshop by Greg Tang on October 7, 2020. The registration link will be in the principal newsletter. There is no cost for parents. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to learn more about this program.

IV. Action Items

- The SGC was asked to consider using part of their funds for the following items:
 - **Institute for Multi-Sensory Education (IMSE) (\$1,654.80)**
 - Comprehensive 12-month subscriptions (\$379.80)
 - Virtual Comprehensive IMSE Orton-Gillingham Training (\$1,275.00)
 - **Document Cameras, Part 1 of 2 (\$3,925.13)**
 - Fulton County may or may not provide these document cameras.
 - If the county does provide document cameras, SGC funds will not be used for this purpose.

- **Murals** to promote campus culture (\$2,209.08)
 - Update the promise to “Barnwell Bears are kind, respectful and positive.”
 - The cost includes 6 outdoor flags and 1 inside mural.
- **Laptops Lights and Stands** (\$2,318.80)
 - Items are helpful with remote learning and are easily carried from school to home as teachers go in and out of phases.
- A motion was made by Nik Volkov to approve all proposed expenses, totaling \$10,107.81, with the understanding that if any of these items are purchased by Fulton County, SGC funds will not be used. The motion was seconded by Karla Lazzari. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. 3-2-1

3 (Roll/Perspective) – Breana Rounds discussed remote learning. It seems to be going well but it is not perfect. It is not what teachers want to do forever as they want to be with their students. There are some technical issues that are out of teachers’ control. Teachers are thankful they have an administrative team, community of parents, and other teachers to support them. They are also thankful to have students that are patient and want to learn.

2 (Community Feedback) – Most parents seem happy with remote learning and some parents want students face to face now. Parents and students have wondered if teachers are ignoring students when technology fails but that is not the case. The feedback from students indicates they are happy they can return to school.

1 (Suggestion or Question) – In Forsyth County specials are rotated each week. Students stay in a specials class for one week and then go to another specials class the next week. This limits COVID exposure and allows specials teachers to finish a project. Martin Neuhaus will discuss this with the school leadership team. It is possible that the school can prepare a waiver to ask for flexibility to make this change.

VI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting (October 9, 2020, at 2:45 p.m.)

- Update on Phase III, IV, and Face to Face
- Next Steps Conversation – Racial Equality

VII. Adjourn Meeting

- A motion was made by Jessica Nelson to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Karla Lazzari. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.