

Wards Creek School Advisory Council

January 11, 2018

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

A meeting of the Wards Creek Elementary School Advisory Council was held in the Wards Creek Elementary Media Center on January 11, 2018. Jenna Miller made a motion to call the meeting to order and Judy Piggott seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and carried. Mrs. Farrell called the meeting to order at 6:05. Dana Smith recorded minutes for this meeting.

II. Review/Approve November's Minutes

The Minutes from last month's meeting were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes was moved by Elizabeth Janssen and seconded by Jenna Miller. The motion was voted on and carried.

III. Vimeo/Facetime

There were no members that used Vimeo to join the meeting.

IV. New Business

a. Vote: Lisa O'Rourke – Sensory Room

Lissa O'Rourke made a presentation on her request for funds for a Sensory Room. She said it would be a place put a child before he/she gets out of control. It is not just for ESE. It is not a playroom. Lissa said she would like to call it the "Warrior Room" and plans to have it in half of the Orange House planning room. Records will be kept on who and when it is used. After its ready there will be an in-service for the faculty. She stated that she prefers items not be taken from the room for teachers to use in the classroom. Mrs. Mitidieri said smaller items would be able to be checked out. She stated that \$1,330 is needed. She also has collected items from the community.

Questions were raised about the record keeping as well as about how much money is available for SAC do disperse. Mrs. Mitidieri stated that there are more and more children with sensory needs. She also stated there were plenty of funds for the Sensory Room. She said that there was \$6,000 in SAC funds as well as \$9,000 from School Recognition Funds.

There were several questions about where the money came from as SAC members have been told that there was little if any money to disperse. There were also questions and concerns about why there was \$9,000 from School Recognition Funds (SRF) as that is not how the faculty and staff voted for the SRF to be dispersed. Mrs. Mitidieri stated that she wasn't sure where or how that money came from and why SAC members were not told about the money previously. Mrs. Mitidieri said she would look into it and let us know at the next meeting.

There was much discussion about how to fairly disperse the money as in the past the money was evenly divided among the grade levels. The grade levels then submitted fund request and make a presentation to SAC who would then vote on whether to approve the request or not.

Mrs. Mitidieri stated that the funds weren't meant to be used that way, but for use for special projects such as Ms. O'Rourke's passion for establishing a Sensory Room. She stated she would let the team leaders know that requests for funds could be submitted.

Questions were raised about what parameters would there be for teachers requesting funds. Mrs. Mitidieri stated that she, Mrs. Farrell, and Mrs. Fanning would come up with parameters and send it out. Mrs. Mitidieri stated she would come prepared to discuss the issues brought up during the Sensory Room funding discussion.

Elizabeth Janssen made a motion to approve the Sensory Room request by Ms. O'Rourke. Teresa Lloyd seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and carried.

b. Book Study: *The Yes Brain: How to Cultivate Courage, Curiosity, and Resilience in Your Child* by: Daniel Siegel

Mrs. Fanning stated that several books were considered for the book study and shared those books with the members. She said the *The Yes* book was released Tuesday and also has a workbook. The book isn't needed to complete the workbook. The same author also wrote, *The Whole Brain Child*, which Mrs. Fanning also stated was in consideration. The workbook has scenarios that can be responded to. 12 strategies are presented in the book and workbook for "no drama discipline."

Mrs. Fanning said that the book study would be something we could do ourselves and not have to depend on guest speakers, which we still may have. She said copies of the books would be provided for SAC members and other copies will be put in The Bookshelf for other people to use. She said she could put the book choices on a Survey Monkey after members had a chance to look into the books.

Mrs. Williams asked if we could vote on it now. Mrs. Shreves said she thought it would help keep discussions focused.

Jenna Miller made a motion to use the workbook as a SAC book study. Mrs. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and carried.

c. i-Ready Test B Mrs. Mitidieri stated that the results from the grade levels that had completed the assessment were very good. Second grades and third grade have completed the assessment. She is excited about the results and that those grade levels had exceeded the goal for being on target to reach one-year's growth by year's end. Kindergarten and fourth grade have started. First grade and fifth grade would be finished by the end of January. She will share final results of the Test B assessment at our next meeting.

V. Old Business

a. Leaders with Character Mrs. Mitidieri said the second quarter awards presentation went well. Parents commented that the sound system was much better for hearing the children's names. The next Torch Card celebration will be a Teacher Talent Show.

b. Giving Tree Donations – Christina King Mrs. King said that a lot of donations came in and with Mrs. Pagan's organizational help that each child got the items on their wish list either by actual item or with a gift card. 41 children were recipients. Mrs. King said that all the children were Warrior family members. When asked how children were identified, she has a list of families in need as well as from teacher input. The county has a list of homeless families and they are on an "Assist" list. Mrs. King includes those children from our school on the list of recipients. Mrs. Mitidieri stated that we have 30 children considered homeless (foster children are considered "homeless.")

VI. PTO Agenda as reported by Mrs. Janssen:

a. Boosterthon Mrs. Janssen that it's currently underway. The Fun Run will be Friday, January 18th. She stated that volunteers are needed to help mark the laps on children's stickers on shirts.

b. Updates

- Daddy/Daughter Dance will be February 23rd. The theme is "Alice in Wonderland."
- Teacher Appreciation for February will be soup and cheese sandwiches.
- "Bingo for Books" event will be on Tuesday, February 6th while The Bookshelf is open.

Participants will bring books to play. Winners of Bingo games will get to choose a book from one that was brought. PTO will sell hotdogs.

- Mrs. Pagan reported that Heritage Landing has agreed to let us use their community pool for the 4th quarter Torch Card celebration.

- Mrs. Shreves reported that the second order of long-sleeved t-shirts will be here tomorrow and will be distributed tomorrow as well.

- Mrs. Shreve reported that this year's yearbook will be \$18 (previously \$25.) Information flyers will be sent home and orders will be taken online only. SAC members will receive a free copy if they attended all meetings.

VI. Curriculum Connections

a. Guest Speaker: Social Media (unconfirmed)

The speaker was unable to attend and is hoping to be here at the next meeting.

VII. Questions/Concerns:

No other questions or concerns were noted other than those that were addressed during the meeting.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 8th, 2018, at 6:00 in the Media Center.

IX. Adjournment

Kimberlee Pagan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jenna Miller seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The meeting was adjourned a **7:05**.

Attendance: Attendees are attached on a separate list.