**Wards Creek School Advisory Council**

**January 11th, 2016**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Attendees are attached on a separate list.

**Call to Order:**

A meeting of the Wards Creek Elementary School Advisory Council was held in the Wards Creek Elementary Media Center on January 11th, 2016. Staci Farrell called the meeting to order. Heather Clubb recorded minutes for this meeting.

**Minutes:**

The Minutes from last month’s meeting were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes was moved by Dana Smith and Charlotte Hartley seconded the motion.

**SRF Voting:**

Next month we will begin the process outlined in our bylaws to approve the means by which our school will distribute our recognition funds. Mrs. Jarrell explained that the recommendation by Commissioner Stewart was approved, so we are an A School for this year and the funds will be distributed based on last year’s vote.

**Parent Survey:**

At our last meeting, we discussed the possibility of putting the topic of “homework” on our survey. Due to the concerns that were already raised by SAC, Mrs. Jarrell recommends us not putting it on the survey but going ahead and moving forward with addressing it through a SAC action team. Mrs. Jarrell also mentioned that the district is potentially going to be developing guidelines in this area as well. The survey will go out at the end of the month.

**Special Presentation-Growth Mindset by Christa Ritchie (WCES Instructional Coach):**

Mrs. Ritchie introduced herself to the group and provided background on her education and experiences. This is her first year at WCES. Mrs. Ritchie started by discussing with the group the importance of students facing challenges, enduring struggles, and learning how to fail and try again. She discussed that “growth mindset” is the view of ability and intelligence as things that can be developed, rather than qualities that are innate. In other words, students who believe they can increase their intelligence and abilities possess a growth mindset. Mrs. Ritchie emphasized the necessity for us to impart the growth mindset to our students/children. She said that we do this by changing what we say to students/children, changing how we interact with them when they are struggling, changing how we praise them, and ultimately by supporting them as they seek to grow. Mrs. Ritchie provided the group with some examples on how growth mindset is different from fixed mindset. She also provided the group with a handout that outlined steps for developing a growth mindset with children/students. Mrs. Ritchie closed by announcing the upcoming PIE (Parent Information Evening) Night on February 9th, 2016.

**Principal’s Report:**

Mrs. Jarrell did not have any new information to report.

**PTO Report**

Boosterthon is kicking off tomorrow with the pep rally. The Fun Run is on the January 22nd. Daddy Daughter Dance is coming up on February 19th and the theme for this year CandyLand. There is a committee meeting on Thursday morning at 8:30. The Volunteers of the Year are Wanda Nelson (parent) and Jack Shepherd (senior). Ready Set Glow Run on April 1st. McDonalds night will be on April 19th.

**TORCH Festival:**

There was an issue with food trucks that kept us from moving forward for a while, but it has since been resolved. Mrs. Jarrell discussed putting a survey out to the community to gauge interest. A date still needs to be selected for the event.

**Adjournment**:

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dana Smith and Jenna Miller seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Next SAC meeting will be February 8th, 2015 at 6:00pm. We will be taking a group photo next month!