**Wards Creek School Advisory Council**

**November 9th, 2015**

**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 November 9th, 2015. 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 Tammy Stewart and Dana Smith seconded the motion.

**School Improvement Plan:**

Mrs. Jarrell presented the School Improvement Plan for the 2015-2016 school year. She informed the group about how this plan is more qualitative versus quantitative, due to the switch last year to FSA testing. She then reviewed areas where expectations were exceeded last year. Those areas included the streamlining of MTSS, the implementation of a comprehensive guidance program, and a collaborative collegiality with the focus on the whole student. She moved on to discuss challenges that the school faced and is facing. These include(d): a large population of students with IEPs and 504 plans (testing accommodations, skill remediation, concept mastery), writing (FCAT Writes from two years ago showed disparities and we are now teaching a new type of writing with a new assessment), and customized learning paths (how we need to remediate, extend, enrich students as needed). Mrs. Jarrell then outlined the goals that are in place to address those challenges. To meet the needs of students with special needs Wards Creek is offering a continuum of services (variety of ways and services to meet those needs). Our school is also explicitly focused on writing this year through content-based writing and through the Being a Writer program. Finally, WCES is continuing to implement MAGIC (mixed ability group in classrooms) time four days a week to meet student needs, grade levels are using PLC@Work strategies during WOW, and district cadre members are also training teachers in the areas of high-yield strategies, balanced literacy, math, and technology.

Mrs. Jarrell answered questions regarding mental health resources available to the district, the Being a Writer program, and Odyssey of the Mind. Members of SAC expressed that some additional communication would be great in regards to opportunities like Odyssey of the Mind. Solutions were discussed as to how to best communicate this with parents at the beginning of the year- display boards, BlackBoard, and flyers were discussed.

**PTO Report**

Amy Lasswell shared that the Mother Son Event went very well. PTO is doing a Staff Appreciation Day in both November and December. They will also be helping with the distribution of the Giving Tree gifts.

PTO will be sponsoring a GlowRun 5k along with Pacetti Bay and Mill Creek on April 1st. It will be open to adults ($25) and students ($15) and a mile run ($10).

**Adjournment**:

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tammy Stewart and Elizabeth Janssen seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Next SAC meeting will be December 14th, 2015 at 6:00pm.