

## Call to order

A meeting of the Sarah Smith Elementary GO Team was held at IC Media Center on 5/8/17. The meeting was called to order at 3:20 p.m.

## Attendees

Attendees included Attendees included:

Dr. Michael Forehand  
Ms. Elizabeth Cox  
Dr. Sherry Riley  
Ms. Jana Thomas  
Ms. Chiesa Carter  
Ms. Laura Troup  
Ms. Christina Barnette

**Guests:** Kori Sanchez Smith (APS), Nanci Tsang, Christina Gonzalez, Jennifer Sand, Steffi Rohn, Kathy Stevens, Elizabeth Sharpton

## Members not in attendance

Mr. Alfonso Champion  
Mr. Robert Sarkissian  
Ms. Shirley Smith

## Approval of minutes

Previous minutes were approved. Christina Barnette motioned to approve, Laura Troup seconded.

## Reports

- Kori Sanchez Smith with APS presented the Social Emotional Learning component of the curriculum. It consists of goal setting, helping students with emotions, perseverance, and communication. The program consists of explicit and implicit instruction. She shared an example of a box of items that teachers will have in their classrooms. The Kindergarten and 1st grade boxes consist of puppets and pictures that help them understand one another, and encourage culture and a positive climate in the school. Students will learn

about core competencies, including recognizing emotions and helping them learn how to describe them. In describing how it works day to day, Kori, said younger students could incorporate this during morning meetings and brain break. Older students will participate in longer lessons. Kori will come in the fall to help implement the program and the leadership team will lead the work and support the faculty. Kori stated that the goal is to embed the language of the explicit curriculum and apply it to teachable moments. The program is designed to be taught once per week, but other teachable moments will pop up during the day. The results of the program show that there is a decrease in antisocial behavior and they can track success in people making good decisions. There is also a bully protection unit that promotes empathy that will be implemented by the counselor. A question was asked regarding a component for teachers. Kori stated that there is adult training on self-awareness and mindfulness to promote good relationships among the faculty.

- Professional Learning release days: Dr. Forehand suggested adding 2 Professional Learning days during the week of private school spring break. It would be a 3-day week for students with 3/16/18 and 3/17/18 being professional learning days. Historically, several students are absent during private school spring break, which negatively affects the CCRPI scores. This would allow time for teachers to work, including those who are completing their gifted endorsement. This would result in 2 fewer days off school, but the charter allows for this flexibility. There are other professional learning days already in the school calendar.
- The GO Team will be advocating for the Milestones Testing to be pushed back to late April/early May.
- IB update: 5th grade would like to try departmentalizing and team teaching. The classroom teacher will take responsibility for all subjects and interpret the standards so that all parts of the curriculum are being taught. Dr. Forehand would like to start with 5th grade. The question of implementing it in other grades was asked. Dr. Forehand stated that based on research, it is beneficial for 5th grade, but would be open to discussion of Departmentalizing other grade levels.
- A few questions were asked about IB rules and Dr. Forehand clarified that groups cannot be the same throughout the year. Students must work with a variety of students. Departmentalization will help with that.
- A discussion of the SSEF's recent meeting was discussed. They were able to tie their spending initiatives to the strategic plan with the technology funding. A motion was made to combine #6 and #7 on the strategic plan to say "Build systems and resources to support IB, DI, and ESOL. A new school priority was suggested to read "Build systems and resources to provide state of the art technology in all classrooms." Christina Barnette motioned to approve the change and Laura Troup seconded. The approval was unanimous.

**Public Comment:**

- Parents have expressed concern about staff retention and acquiring qualified staff for the DI program. It was also asked how kids are assessed to measure the success of the program.
- A possible summer program for DI was suggested.

**Principal’s Report**

- Mr. Fleming was the recipient of the Teacher of the Year and Cathy Johnson was the recipient of Support Staff of the Year.
- *Into the Woods* was a huge success. The students participated in all parts of the production.
- The new TV studio goes live on 5/22/17. Parents will be asked to help out with the studio. The broadcast from the TV studio will replace morning announcements and will be shown on both campuses.
- Dr. Forehand thanked the SSEF for the budget planning session.
- A retreat for the faculty and staff is being planned. It will consist of team building and strategic planning.

**New business**

**Announcements**

The first GO Team meeting for the 2017-2018 school year is scheduled for 8/7/17 at 3:15 at the IC Media Center.

Elizabeth Cox motioned and Jana Thomas seconded to adjourn meetings. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

<b>Jana Thomas</b> Secretary

Date of approval