

### Call to order

A meeting of the Sarah Smith Elementary GO Team was called to order at the Sarah Smith Intermediate Campus on Wieuca Road on September 16, 2019 at 3:17 pm.

### Attendees:

GO Team:

Emily Boatright

Katy Barnes

Jennifer Sand

Ellie Boydston

Rebecca Blanchette

Robin Ortale

Debbie Dubois

Is there are quorum present? Circle or highlight **Yes** or No

### Action Items - Approval of agenda and minutes

Agenda - Debbie Dubois motioned to approve the agenda. Rebecca Blanchette seconded the motion. All members of the GO Team voted in favor.

Minutes from August 19th Meeting - Ellie Boydston motioned to approve the minutes. Debbie Dubois seconded the motion. All members of the GO Team voted in favor.

### Discussion Items -

Adrienne Cronin is in attendance representing the Sarah Smith Education Foundation to present their Curriculum Investment Plan (4 Page Handout Provided) and how it aligns to the school's Strategic Plan.

- \$3 million investment to date
- SSEF is funding 75% of the curriculum this year
- Looking to raise \$250K from their fundraisers for 2019-2020 school year
- Academic Programs - Makes up 60% of the SSEF funding. Includes things like
  - Academic competitions
  - Classroom libraries
  - Stipend to specialists for materials
  - Technology (working on a three year plan for technology purchases),
  - Tutoring enrichment (ELA)
  - Grammar, Phonics, and Writing
  - Learning to Read
  - Math Manipulatives

- Captain Planet Garden
- High Touch High Tech
- Science Lab Materials
- Talent and Management
  - Classroom Investment - each teacher gets \$300 for use in their room
  - IB Training
  - Teacher Grant Program (up to \$500 for each proposal)
  - Any other teacher training (examples Foundations, Dual Immersion, etc.)
- Systems Resources
  - Dual Immersion - classroom materials, teacher training, etc.
  - Facility and Faculty Support - i.e. printers, staff retreat, etc.
  - IB Materials, Resources (this year is evaluation year and there is a fee)
- Culture
  - Admin Support
  - Agendas
  - IT Week - assist in cost of executing this program
- For the future, SSEF is looking at aligning curriculum with technology
- There was a huge effort last year to evaluate exactly what we need and what is being used so that we are not wasting resources - will keep evaluating and adjusting as needed.

## Information Items

### Leveling

- As of today we are just north of 70 students under our projection. Each student equals \$4400 in budget and so the gap equates to \$362,440
- APS looked at the needs district wide.
- We carried over about \$3700 from last year's budget and had \$40K in reserves, but we still had to repay the district about \$221,591 - approx. 2 teacher positions.
- For the leveling, the district looked at grade levels that were the most under the projections because it is the least disruptive for the school. For our school it is K and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (most underage). The District also tried to match the teacher who they were taking to a position elsewhere that was similar. District could only place the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, so that is where we were leveled.
- Ms. Larkin is coming out of ESL and going to teach a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class. Ms. McClain is coming out of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to teach ESL and her class was collapsed and still keeps 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes around 20.

- Still need confirmation as to what we can spend of “extra” dollars (DLI parapro, cafeteria monitor, etc). Special ed positions are exempt from this. Not sure if “debt” will carry over to next school year.
- Takeaways for next year - need to get a better handle on our numbers. Enrollment pattern is really random, so that is going to be hard. We are in touch with the preschools, which are down in enrollment, but they think it is due to full time care. Projection issues are all over the North Cluster
- Families that were impacted were all called and Emily also sent them a letter with the explanation.
- When Emily knew we were under she enlisted the help of all of the admin and teachers to see what budget areas we could do away with before touching any positions.

#### Curriculum Updates

- Academic Systems of Excellence - picking curriculum materials that we want and aligning across the North Atlanta Cluster.
- Eureka Math is still going strong.
- Peer observations between teachers - feedback has been good so far and they have been able to validate high points in teaching faculty. Ex. Math teachers doing centers and that has been beneficial to share.

#### Facilities Update

- Almost unpacked at PC
- Met with Robert Palmer last week who is the district facility contact - how facilities issues are to be reported. Need to have a ticket for every issue.
- Removal of portables at PC - has been signed more than a year ago. Think it may be an equipment issue.
- NYO Water Issue needs to be addressed.
- Both playgrounds at the PC need maintenance - wood chips, trim, NYO needs to clean facilities. Courtyard also needs to be cleaned out. Could workdays help? Hard to get volunteers.
- Mold testing at Primary Campus - asked for it again.

#### IB Recertification

- Will need parents to sit on the committee - Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.
- We have two representatives from IB coming in.



- Last year, did IB planners and it was a lot of work. Now we need to execute it with our kids. Use them as foundation for our planning.
- GATE Orientation this week on Wednesday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> before PTO General Meeting.
- Karen White, PC GATE Teacher, has been working with grade level teachers in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> to determine what the students need. She is pushing in 4 days a week in some manor. She also does a Think Lab where kids come to her. Goal is for her to also push into DLI classes.
- Feedback from the parents has been overall positive. Karen is doing a great job.
- Teachers like that it is on a more consistent schedule.
- Our gifted population is just under 20%, but we feel like certain subgroups are under identified.
- Gifted kids are weighted higher (as are Early Intervention Program kids) - which gives us more \$ for teachers and in our budget.

## Public Comment

Kristen Koenig has a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader in DLI and GATE Program. She is here to represent the parents of DLI. Last year, her family personally had a hard year with the large class size and GATE. The DLI parents are very concerned about the large class sizes and the lack of staffing. There is such a heavy learning load in the DLI classes - they have to learn everything including math in Spanish. They really need Paraprofessionals and are concerned with the size of the classes. This has been an ongoing concern and they wanted to make sure their concerns are being heard.

## Chairperson Announcements

The APS GO Team Summit is on September 28<sup>th</sup> at King Middle School from 9:00 until 3:00. We have enough GO Team Members attending, but all are invited.

NAPPS Principal's Update is Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at noon at Jackson Primary with all 8 principals from the North Atlanta Cluster participating.

On Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm there will be a conversation with the Superintendent.

Tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 at Atlanta History Center - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students from Ms. Cecil's Class will be singing at a celebration of city field trip Cultural Enrichment Program.

Technology Committee meeting September 17<sup>th</sup> afterschool at 3:00. Katy and Jennifer will attend.

On November 7<sup>th</sup> there is an APS State of the District at Harper-Archer Elementary School.



# Meeting Minutes

Debbie Dubois motioned to end meeting. Rebecca Blanchette seconded. The entire GO Team was in agreement. Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm. ....  
STRONG SCHOOLS  
START WITH ME!

Robin Ortale

Secretary

Date of approval