

MEETING NOTICE

School	Date	Time	Location	Link to Meeting
BEST Academy (6-12)	10/5/23	5:00-6:00pm	Zoom Meeting	https://shorturl.at/uvxI7 Meeting ID: 895 5584 0456 Passcode: gobest Public Comment contact: bewilliams@apsk12.org

Notice Prepared By: Dr. Timothy D. Jones

Date Posted: 10/17/23

Meeting Agenda

(Agenda may be amended)

This meeting will allow for Public Comment

I. Call to Order: 5:15pm

II. Roll Call; Establish Quorum

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Dr. Timothy Jones	A
Parent/Guardian	Dr. Keny Gilliard	A
Parent/Guardian	Mrs. April Battise-Reid	A
Parent/Guardian	Mr. John Gibbons	P
Instructional Staff	Dr. Bruce Williams	P
Instructional Staff	Mr. Ricky Davis	P
Instructional Staff	Mrs. Raquanda Epps-Primas	P
Community Member	Mr. Ray singer	A
Community Member	Dr. Michael Patterson	P
Swing Seat	Dr. Vernon Smart	P
Student	Marcus Daniel	A
Student	Kevin Scott, Jr.	P

III. Reading of previous minutes – Dr. B. Williams

IV. Action Items

A. Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) Goals Overview/ Share-out – Dr. Smart

1. Literacy Proficiency Goal (Goal #1):

To improve literacy proficiency among students. This goal aimed to enhance reading and comprehension skills across all grade levels.

2. Numeracy Proficiency Goal (Goal #2):

To enhance numeracy proficiency, focusing on math skills and problem-solving abilities.

3. Post Graduation Preparedness Goal (Goal #3):

To better prepare students for life after graduation, including readiness for college, careers, and life skills.

4. College and Career Readiness Goal (Goal #4):

To improve college and career readiness by enhancing guidance, support, and opportunities for students to explore various career paths.

Dr. Smart reiterated the mission of BEST Academy, which is to provide all students with schoolwide daily rigorous STEM instruction and expose them to innovative practices to ensure that 100% of students are proficient or distinguished in all core content areas. The vision of BEST Academy is to offer learning experiences and opportunities where students not only possess a strong academic foundation but are also motivated to think critically, solve problems, engage in creativity, and work collaboratively for the benefit of themselves, the school, and the community.

BEST Academy has identified three key goals:

1. Increase the percentage of students proficient or above in ELA (English Language Arts) on the MAP assessment from 29% in spring 2023 to 41% or higher in spring 2024.
2. Increase the percentage of students proficient or above in math on the MAP assessment from 17% in spring 2023 to 25% or higher in spring 2024.
3. Increase the percentage of students scoring in the highest performance category by 3 percentage points on the RIT score.

Dr. Smart then presented the Strategic Plan Priorities in rank order for APS, which include:

1. Implementing a STEM-enriched curriculum to support interdisciplinary and project-based teaching and learning approaches.
2. Using data to drive instructional decisions.
3. Implementing a whole-child system of support with the integration of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) to address both academic and non-academic performance.
4. Utilizing flexible learning tools, technology integration, and targeted instruction to personalize learning for all students.
5. Strengthening staff capacity to support core content knowledge and STEM needs for students.
6. Increasing family engagement through positive interactions with the school and partnership opportunities.

Following the review of the strategic plan priorities, a motion was made and seconded for approval.

Dr. Smart highlighted BEST Academy's commitment to rigorous STEM instruction, its ambitious goals for student proficiency in core content areas, and alignment with the APS district's strategic priorities for fostering academic excellence, providing student support, empowering leaders and staff, and creating a system of school support.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ELA MAP Data – Dr. Julliette Johnson:

Dr. Juliette Johnson emphasized the significance of MAP testing, which is administered three times a year in the fall, winter, and spring. This data serves several crucial purposes, including measuring student growth in comparison to other district students. The results of the assessment impact student aptitude, funding allocation, teacher effectiveness, and school and principal effectiveness. Therefore, students are encouraged to give their best effort during these assessments, as the data provides essential baseline information regarding their proficiency in numeracy and literacy.

Dr. Johnson then delved into the data, starting with a school-wide snapshot of student performance in the reading assessment. This data will be used to evaluate the school's overall performance in this specific area.

Dr. Johnson highlighted the importance of MAP testing and its role in assessing student progress, teacher and school effectiveness, and providing valuable insights into students' numeracy and literacy proficiency.

MATH MAP Data – Ms. U. Smith

Ms. Smith provided an overview of the Math MAP Data. She explained that many of the processes and procedures used for reading are also applied to math, allowing her to focus on presenting the data. The presentation began with a school-wide overview of the data, including percentiles indicating student performance relative to their grade level peers.

Ms. Smith highlighted areas of excitement and areas that require improvement in the data. Notably, she pointed out that the performance in the 61st through 80th percentile range was particularly high, and the goal was to maintain this positive momentum.

Similar to the reading assessment, individual student data was analyzed. In the case of math, this data included domains and their associated score ranges, specifically in geometric and spatial reasoning, and numerical reasoning.

Ms. Smith covered a comprehensive review of math data, identifying both strengths and areas for growth, and underlined the significance of monitoring student performance to inform instructional strategies.

CIP – Ms., Kelley

Mrs. Kelley provided a more in-depth examination of the CIP (Context, Input, Process, Product) goals, building on Dr. Smart's earlier presentation. She took a comprehensive approach by going through the goals line by line and encouraged questions from the audience based on both Dr. Smart's and her own presentations.

V. Information Items

MAP INNOVATION THINKING - Ms. Heard

Ms. Heard discussed the connection between their work and APS's five key areas, with a particular focus on data, curriculum and instruction, whole child intervention, and personalized learning. She emphasized the importance of MAP data in driving instruction, as previously explained by Ms. Kelly.

Ms. Heard provided a sample scenario to illustrate how they can personalize learning for a student with a particular RIT score, such as 191. She mentioned the use of a tool known as "Exhale" and hinted at its capabilities, but further details or a demonstration may have followed her statement.

Her presentation emphasized the practical application of data and tools to support personalized learning for students, aligning with the broader goals of APS.

VI. Announcements

- A. All Pro Dads Kick-Off - Thursday October 26th, 4:00-7:00pm (auditorium/small gym)
- B. Next Meeting: November 2nd
- C. November 7th – Election Day (Virtual Learning)
- D. Parent Teacher Conference – November 13th
- E. Atlanta Falcons Coach of the Week – Coach Goodrum
- F. Required Trainings Update (Dr. Williams)

VII. Adjournment - 6:09pm