(03/11/2024)

Quick recap

The meeting revolved around discussing the Go team's norms and procedures, rescheduling due to a board meeting, and the need for a secretary for transcription. The team also discussed the impact of budget cuts on the role of a behavior specialist in schools, the importance of specific roles focused on attendance and behavior, and the budget situation. The team also discussed security measures, student achievements, feedback, upcoming surveys, and a potential partnership between Washington High School and a community organization to help transition parents from hotels or shelters into homeownership.

Summary

Go Team Norms and Procedures

The meeting revolved around the Go team's norms and procedures. Nicole, the Go team chair, highlighted the importance of treating everyone with respect and maintaining an environment of quiet observation for non-team members. The team also discussed rescheduling due to a board meeting and the need for a secretary for transcription. By the end of the meeting, the team had approved both the agenda and previous meeting minutes, despite several members being absent.

Budget Cuts and School Roles Discussion

The team discussed concerns about the impact of budget cuts on the role of a behavior specialist in schools. William presented the budget breakdown, emphasizing that the majority of the budget is spent on instruction. The team also discussed strategic plan breakout categories and the allocation of funds, with a focus on intervention specialists and assistant principals. William outlined a new plan for student outcomes, emphasizing the role of engagement specialists, instructional coaches, and attendance specialists. Concerns were raised about the abolition of a counselor position due to budgeting issues, but it was confirmed that the student-to-counselor ratio was still favorable. The team also discussed the importance of specific roles focused on attendance and behavior. The discussion ended with William's intention to present the decisions to a governing body for approval.

Pathways Discussion: No Questions Raised

Nicole led a discussion about certain pathways that were not affected. She then opened the floor for questions, starting with Miss Huff, Cornelius, and Miss Foy. No questions were raised. William acknowledged an excellent observation made during the discussion, promising further discussion in the future.

Budget, Staffing, and Academic Gaps

William discussed the budget situation and the challenges faced in areas such as literacy and math. The team considered releasing funds in the fall and hiring another person, but for now, they are relying on the work of subgroups, especially the intervention subgroup. Plans were made to market the after-school Wolf Academy to help bridge academic gaps. Kimberly clarified that only one teacher position was affected and expressed confidence in the team's ability to close academic gaps. Concerns were raised about the number of students requiring support, with Nicole suggesting extending the school day and adding more staff. The team also discussed the implementation of a new platform, Edge Reply, designed to assist teachers in classroom management and student engagement. Despite concerns about its effectiveness, the team agreed to move forward with it.

Budget and Security Approval With Confusion

Nicole initiated action on the budget, which was approved by the team. The team then moved on to discuss security, with William leading the presentation. There was a confusion regarding the voting process for the budget, resulting in the vote being declared inconclusive. However, after a second vote, the budget was approved. The discussion also included the addition of 45 dollars per student from the state of Georgia for enhanced security.

Security Measures and Grant Discussion

William led a discussion on enhancing security measures at their school. The team agreed on the need for additional cameras to address blind spots and improve visibility. However, the idea of hiring a resource officer was dropped due to cost considerations. Chaundra Tullis- shared a potential grant of \$45,000 currently under review by the state legislature. The team decided to submit their comments and continue the discussion later. It was clarified that if the grant was awarded, it would be given as a block grant to the district. The team also discussed how to allocate the grant, with William suggesting the use of cameras for active video surveillance at schools, but Chaundra Gipson emphasized that the final decision on how to use the grant was not yet settled.

Team Discusses Student Achievements, Feedback, and Literacy Importance.

The team discussed various topics including student achievements, feedback, and upcoming surveys. The team was reminded to complete their required trainings and to inform Miss Gipton if they do not have a LS login. The team also celebrated the success of a student, Kanaya Thomas, who won the Young Georgia Authors award. Towards the end of the meeting, the team agreed to send out a survey and discussed the importance of literacy in their school. The meeting was then adjourned.

Partnership, Prom Dresses, and Background Checks

Lita discussed a potential partnership between Washington High School and a community organization to help transition parents from hotels or shelters into homeownership. Additionally, Lita mentioned two partners who wanted to assist with prom dresses for female seniors, and another who wanted to help male seniors with suits. Lita also mentioned a need to conduct a criminal background check for the upcoming year. Dionne confirmed that she had received Lita's information and passed it on to Mr. Walker, who handles partnerships.

Next steps

- Consider adding more cameras to address blind spots at the school.
- Miss Washington will email the information about the alumni association to Miss Foy and Mr. Wade.
- Miss Huff will send the meeting summary to Miss Foy after it's completed.