

Final Meeting Minutes

Midtown High School

Date: 10/21/24

Time: 4:00

Recording: [https://atlantapublicschools-](https://atlantapublicschools-us.zoom.us/j/5775920515?pwd=L1lwQVpZZTd1YXowT1hGWE1JU04yUT09#success)

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I. Call to order: 4:09 pm

II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Betsy Bockman	P
Parent/Guardian	Eric Goldberg	P
Parent/Guardian	Jenifer Keenan	P
Parent/Guardian	Audrea Rease	P
Instructional Staff	Trenee Uzoka	P
Instructional Staff	Roderick Hill	A
Instructional Staff	Lisa Boyd	P
Community Member	Willgina Montgomery	A
Community Member	Tamara Jones	P (via Zoom)
Swing Seat	Nydia Rivera	P
Student (High Schools)	Eden Sharp	P
Student (High Schools)	Open	N/A

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

A. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: Audrea Rease; Seconded by Lisa Boyd:

Members Approving: Unanimous

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carries

B. **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

Motion made by: Jenifer Keenan; Seconded by: Nydia Rivera

Members Approving: Unanimous

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carries

IV. Discussion Items

- A. Georgia Milestones Math Data
Reviewed data at September meeting.
- B. i: Continuous Improvement Plan Presentation
Include link to slide

ii. Strategic Plan Update

–Late grade policy discussed. Students have a deadline for re-taking exams and turning in work. Change to late grade policy for AP classes (to allow a maximum grade of 80 for late work) was put into effect to prevent kids from abusing rules and turning in a significant amount of work late.

-Change to AP grading. Teacher Go Team reps report flaws in current policy. Concern was raised about the weight for AP grades changing from 60% summative/40% formative (the policy in years past for all classes and the current policy for on-level classes) to 70%/30%. Go Team asks what are the AP policies of other APS schools? Do they have 60%/40% split? Late grade policy of 80? Concerns that 70%/30% split for AP classes puts undue stress on students, particularly those who don't test well. Teacher GO Team reps indicated that the focus of students should be on learning rather than grade numbers. Other GO Team members said increasing the weight of tests to 70% rather than 30%, however, undermines the goal of focusing on learning. A Go Team member requested the school to reconsider the 70%/30% split for APs. Having a different grading weight for AP classes than on-level classes also diminishes the "additional 10 points" that are awarded for AP classes. No action was voted on by the Go Team.

–Implementation of Personal Electronic Device (PED) policy. Cell phone initiative based on teacher feedback to decrease classroom distractions. Phone part of policy seems to be going well. A Go Team member requested a survey of teachers, students and families on PED policy distinguishing between personal laptop and cell phone policy. Multiple reports of problems stemming from personal laptop ban including lack of access to gmail and other programs for which students need access. A Go Team member pointed out the policy's prohibition on the possession of personal laptops is contrary to APS policy, which allows for the possession of PEDs. A Go Team member requested that Midtown adopt a policy that allows students to possess their laptops so that they can use them for afterschool activities. No action was voted on by the Go Team.

- School working with “Empower Academic Coaching” to provide Midtown faculty professional learning on enhancing functioning skills in students to support their success in post graduation settings.
- A fifth counselor and second social worker have been added in response to student and faculty needs.
- Continue to utilize parents to provide opportunities for gifted internship classes.
- Parent conferences will be held two Tuesday’s a month.
- Consultant hired to provide professional learning, classroom observations, teacher coaching and observations.
- Midtown outperforming all other schools on AP exam results. AP grades are now weighted 70%/30%; 70 percent coming from grade results. Go Team member asks if this is the right ratio. Is this putting too much emphasis on grades? If Midtown outperformed all other schools on AP exam results, why change AP grades from 60% summative/40% formative to 70%/30%?

V. Information Items

A. Principal’s Report

- i. Security Grant Update: \$45,000. Money is going to window tinting for ground level classrooms, additional badge readers to black box theater and for purchase and installation of door monitoring.

-A Go Team member requested for school to provide training on best ways for students (and parents) to communicate with teachers/advocate for themselves. Student training can happen during SEL time. No action was voted on by the Go Team.

–2025 ACT data. Midtown composite: 24. 7. Georgia average: 21.2.
APS average: 17.2. National average: 19.4

– Number of fights down by 16 (21 to 5) from last year; class/school disruptions down (14 to 7) and thefts (4 to 2) down.

- 266 students are attending Saturday school
- 133 parent conferences have taken place since August

– Students have the opportunity to participate in over 50 clubs

VI. Announcements

Oct. 25 football game against Mays. Homecoming
PSAT – Oct. 30th for 10th and 11th graders; 9th and 10th graders will complete
UScience
Nov. 2 Day of the Dead celebration at an off campus location.

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: Jennifer Keenan; Seconded by: Audrea Rease
Members Approving: Unanimous
Members Opposing: None
Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carries

ADJOURNED AT 5:26 pm

Minutes Taken By: Eric Goldberg

Position: Secretary

Date Approved: 11/18/2024 _____