

Go Team Meeting

Thursday, September 20, 2018

4:32 PM

Hand outs Agenda (slightly revised)

Meeting schedule

Attendance rates

Culturally responsible teaching

Milestones scores

Principals report

Meeting to order at 4:36 by Lisa Jern

Roll: missing: Courtney, Brigitte, everyone else present

New member: Matilda Redfern (student) and Sarah Shoup (new member to replace Rod Reynolds (resigned))

Guest: Meredith Kaltman, Linda Mazzeo (PTSA president), Rita Golden, and Linda Fearon

Previous meeting minutes (see slight edit from Lisa on hard copy)

Motion to approve: Jerek

Second : Elliot

Passed unanimously

Motion approve updated agenda

Same 1st and 2nd.

Passed unanimously

Rod resigning. 3 year term is too long to maintain passion. He's happy to help with things going forward. Sarah Shoup (next vote getter in election) was appointed by principal and unanimously approved by the GO Team.

Strategic Plan

Slight edit on goals to 33% by Costarides. Same as discussed previously.

Sarah asked why AP is not listed as a school priority.

The answer (by Lisa) is because we wanted 3 priority areas (to not have TOO many items), but since IB is our signature program, we did not include it in the priority list.

Also need to change IB Technical to IB CP (slight change)

This is the last year of this particular strategic plan (each one is 3 years). The plan

can and should be updated as often as necessary

Motion to approve: Adrian

2nd motion:Elliot

Passed unanimously

Principals Report

Happily introduced Matilda. Curtis wants her to be involved and speak for all 1987 students here.

She's a senior in IB DP; in volleyball captain, president of National Art Honor Society, takes Spanish since K.

Enrollment: 1987 expected to stay mostly the same rest of year. Up since last meeting

Staffing: we need a math teacher. Not a lot of good candidates right now. We will be okay without it. Not ideal, but okay. Waiting for the right candidate, not hiring just to fill spot.

Special ed: need another inter-related teacher who can co-teach or take a smaller class . We have numbers to justify but district not granted yet

ISS: recommendation made by Curtis

Clerk and hall monitor: both pending to start

New hire: Mr. Christoper Cross (bilingual) working in front office. Good job so far.

Replaced ms. Lee when she resigned

Budgeting and Leveling: Curtis provided presentation and more details in an email.

Curriculum and Instruction: we are getting bigger, we are not perfect but trying for that. Complaints about teachers not keeping up with grade books. Admin team

looking at this more closely. Hope to see improvements.

Suggestion to communicate to parents: "this is sometimes and issue and is being addressed"

Definition of teacher excellence: 6 standards (see hand out). APS is pushing this but something that was already being done but not as well-defined or codified. These

will be the 6 things that are looked for now that they are written down. This helps

reinforce message to teachers they are already hearing. The program gives

examples of observable teacher and student examples. E.g., what does rigor

actually look like?

School wide focus on Rigor

It's a focus every year but even more so this year so we can grow academically as a school. Less focused on remediation. Even those needing remediation need rigor.

See observable instruction strategies in handout.

-kids should know the days instruction objective

-gradual release of information (I do, we do, you do)

-academic discourse: critical thinking, skill and drill, but think critically and justify

-wait time: 3-5 sec for teacher to get an answer; don't let student escape or

ostracized the student

-random name calling: don't always call on Matilda, many teachers use popsicle

sticks to randomly call out students

-plan for what is next: some students finish early; have a plan for that (so they

don't pull out their cellphone)

-Closure: need summary or wrap up. It doesn't just end. Exit ticket.

Teachers Try to do all these things!

Safety and security update:

Parking attendant there EVERY DAY

Parking passes pay for this attendant. It needs enforcement so others aren't paying

for those who don't pay. An outside security person. Gates are now working: slows

down the exit and prevents entrance from the "wrong" side. Capital improvement

to install 18 speed bumps. \$7-8000

Bag searches: happening EVERY DAY. Getting it down to a system; it's much better.

New hall monitor will allow someone to be in the lobby all day everyday. Parents

will not be let in the back unless it's by a teacher who is there to meet them.

Cameras everywhere. SROs are looking at the feed. Good for investigation after.

See something, say something, do something: they remind kids of this

Active shooter training on Oct 9 for staff.

Fire drills every month (also lockdown and tornado drills)

As we grow, looking at more locations to exit to.

Student dress code: backed off a bit last year due to petitions. We are now finding

it's back to "too much" and not inappropriate. We need to get some leeway given

to kids back. He knows it's a push and a pull. Know that it is Some work that needs

to be done.

It needs to a dialog with student, teachers, and parents.

North Atlanta Student athletic leadership team: Mr. Regan and student leaders.

Some obnoxious deplorable activity at games in student cheering section. Saying

things to opposing team. Trying to put a stop to this since it represents NA very

poorly. Mr. Regan working with group to stop this behavior.

Facilities: lacrosse org wants to pay to turf the practice field; stadium: slow

progress, tennis lights in 30 days.

Homecoming: movie, theme days, pep rally, dance

College Fair: big success, great feedback form college reps, lots more other APS

students this year. It costs \$6000.

Female Latino growth (Estrellitas): seeing progress with maturity, focus on

academics. Next focus on males.

8 National Merit Semi-Finalists: most ever (we think)

Drew Sheldon

Data

Look at links that Curtis sent.

CCRPI is increasing; moving up but needs more improvement (achievement is 60%;

that is what is holding our score back now). This is done by increasing classroom

instruction effectiveness

Schools like mine.gosa.ga.gov

Graduation rate: 92.5%

School climate: 3; working to improve this

Attendance: 40% of students missed less than 6 days

Teaching and instructions is key. Need to get rid of bad teachers. Admin goal to be

in each classroom 2x per month.

Culturally Responsive Learning

Dr. Kirk

Achievement gap, cultural differences; he met with team and came up with some

suggestions.

NA reputation is good; students want to get in here. Parents will take a risk to get

kids here.

For some, student expectations are too low.

Adrian: need an appreciation for how you learn. His son's best class was TOK

(theory of knowledge IB class). Help them understand their metacognition. Is there

a possibility of embedding this somehow into kids who don't take TOK.

MYP re-authorization going on.

FOR NEXT MONTH:

What do you see as goals for your committee to get done this year?

Next PTSA meeting is 9/26; school safety and security

Oct 2: two speakers for Hispanic Heritage

Motion to adjourn: Elliot 2nd Jerek