

Meeting Minutes

Morningside Elementary School

Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Time: 5pm

Location: Zoom Call for GO Team & Public Comment

Live Streamed for Community at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz00uNPOXwsUzSD7cVghFaw/live>

I. Call to order: 5:04

II. Roll Call; Establish Quorum

Role	Name <i>(or Vacant)</i>	Present or Absent
Principal	Audrey Sofianos	Present
Parent/Guardian	Shawn McCollough	Present
Parent/Guardian	Lisa Olmsted	Present
Parent/Guardian	Shannon Thibodeau	Present
Instructional Staff	Stephanie Felton	Absent
Instructional Staff	Lynn Slater	Present
Instructional Staff	Wendy Westwood	Present
Community Member	Barbara Crum	Present*
Community Member	Emre Memecan	Present
Swing Seat	Aisha Stith	Present

*Arrived after roll call

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Public Comment:

Shawn explains public comment appropriate for Go Team can do and can not do. Explained the chain of command and that Go Team is for budget and strategic plan. Audrey

Meeting Minutes

introduced Mr. Paul Brown. Lisa explained the public comment format that is on the GoTeam page. We cannot discuss particular teachers or students.

One community member shared concerns about the BASC screening and feels there should be a parent meeting to explain it to parents. He also feels APS mitigation processes are stressful for students.

Another community member shared the opinion that communication breakdowns leave parents feeling disengaged. There is not enough effective communication from the school. There should be a system in place so that parents who have a concern receive a prompt reply, especially safety concerns. These issues should be addressed first. This member stated that parents have had to wait five days for a response to a safety concern.

A third community member shared that Go Team meetings are a place where the community comes together. MES continues to say the school is unsafe and safety protocols need to remain in place. This community member said parents reach outside of the school to find out more information about school policies. Communication should be more consistent.

Shawn made a motion to add an action item to the agenda. Lisa seconded the motion. On the floor for discussion. Stephanie is unable to be the CAT representative so election of a new CAT representative needs to be added to action items.

Shawn motioned to add a new agenda item to vote on a new CAT Representative. Seconded by Shannon. Action approved unanimously. Added to the Agenda as Agenda Item C

Shannon Nominates Lisa to be our CAT representative. Shawn makes a second. Call for vote - passes unanimously

Motion made to move principal report to discussion item. Second: Call for vote, Passes unanimously

IV. Action Items

A. Approval of Meeting Agenda: Motion made by Lisa; Seconded by: Barbara

Amendment made to add Item C (vote on a new CAT Representative) - Motioned by Shawn. Seconded by Shannon. Members Approving: All

Amendment made to move Principal Report to Discussion Item. Motion by Lisa; Seconded by Shawn. Members Approving: All

Members Approving: ALL

Members Opposing: NONE

Members Abstaining: NONE

Motion: Passes

B. Approval of Previous Minutes: Motion made by Lisa; Seconded by Barbara

Members Approving: ALL

Members Opposing: NONE

Members Abstaining: NONE

Motion: Passes

C. Approval of New CAT representative for Go Team: Motion made by Shawn; Seconded by Lisa. Nomination: Lisa Olmsted

Members Approving: ALL

Members Opposing: NONE

Members Abstaining: NONE

Motion: Passes

VI. Discussion Items

A. Discussion Item 1: CAT update (Lisa):

1: CAT Update: Inman Building;

Requesting a timeline for the decision on how the Inman building will be used. There is a parent group creating a survey to find out the community's thoughts. It is believed that the survey results will be shared with GoTeam and then shared with CAT.

There was a discussion of creating the survey or assisting in creating a survey to help ensure all parts of the community are represented. Lisa suggested The Go team should help develop, distribute and then provide the data to APS for analysis. Emre asked if this is the type governance question GoTeam should be involved in. Diane Jacobi asked if the survey would be about the decision regarding Inman, or if the survey would be about how to make the decision that has been made the best decision. From The strategic planning perspective, the board has made the decision and how to make it the best strategically. Lisa said she knows Go Team isn't an advocacy group but that some teams have written letters as a body. Diane explained that that type of group should go through the chain of command. Diane explained that the Go Team doesn't have the authority to have the board change that decision. Audrey shared that it may be more of information gathering on how the community feels about the decision.

Lisa clarified that her second question was how the Go Team should use the information to represent the community at the CAT meetings. Shannon shared how valuable she believes the

Meeting Minutes

quantifiable information would be. Diane shared a link to cluster planning that goes back to 2018. Emre said that he is hearing that the community doesn't feel heard in this decision making process. .

Shawn shared a few notes to help the group. He stated that the 4-5 campus is a recommendation, there will be a first read and a second read, and then a vote. All indications are that the superintendent will recommend the 4-5 campus. Therefore, the school board is the palace for this discussion. On the question of the survey, he suggested we let the groups planning the survey proceed and then Go Team can share the data up the "chain of command".

Barba shared that she thinks people should be allowed to share their thoughts and opinions through the survey.

Lisa will reach out to teachers to get feedback from teachers regarding the information that will be discussed and shared at the CAT meeting.

Signature Program; This is to be discussed it seems the community needs more information about the two program options; IB and STEM.

Teacher Engagement - Time for this discussion was short. Lisa will contact teachers on Go Team to discuss this topic. Teachers agree.

B. Discussion Item 2: MES strategic Plan:

MES Strategic Plan - Audrey suggested we schedule an additional working session in December, either an additional meeting or in lieu of the scheduled meeting. Lisa shared updates on the progress made at the last work session. Draft is posted on the website. We discussed the APS three smart goals. The team also discussed action items that may help reach these goals. Shawn suggested another work session and Lisa suggested that another family engagement committee meeting would be a good idea as well.

C. Discussion Item 3: Principal Report (Audrey):

BASC- Audrey shared the MES website to give parents and community members more information about what this screener means, why it is used and how it is administered. The reason for this is to discover students who may need various supports, particularly in the area of Social Emotional development. The scores are shared in the teaching and learning section of the MES website. What is done with this information is used to provide additional small group support. These may be both preventive and supportive SEL lessons both with Ms. Mellick and through the teacher's daily SEL lessons. Barbara asked about participation compared to other schools. Audrey does not know the comparison with other schools. Lisa asked, if a student is rated elevated in one of the three surveys (parent, teacher and student 3-5) would they be

Meeting Minutes

considered elevated or do they have to be elevated in all three surveys.. Any student that shows elevated on a survey will receive some sort of outreach. Audrey shared that this is highly individualized based on the individual child's survey results taking into account the child self report (3-5), and parent survey, and teacher survey. Lisa asked about policy for school based solutions for supporting students in this area. Diane explained that there is a path for pursuing a school based or cluster based solution.

MAP Fall Assessments Results- Results shared on data from the first round of MAP testing. The second round of assessment is in December. Audrey discussed the student tests in 2-5. There was a discussion about subgroups. Our focus will continue to be on closing the gaps between white population and subgroups. Aisha mentioned being disappointed with the scores of subgroups and suggested closing this gap needs to be an entire community effort. The question was asked about how teachers are feeling about the extended time (3D) added to the day. Lynn and Wendy both reported that the time is productive and is producing gains for students.

C. Discussion Item 4: Future Agenda Items

Discussion of future agenda items included the desire to keep discussing the cluster signature program and the strategic plan and discussing parent, teacher and student engagement.

VII. Announcements

- **Next CAT meeting: December 1, 2021**
- **Talk APS**
- **Next Go Team meeting Dec. 8th @ 5pm**
- **March Go Team and CAT meetings have a conflict, may need to reschedule**

VIII. Public Comment -

One community member said she is requesting her two concerns be sent up the chain of command. This community member believes the 4-5 campus will have a negative impact on the children and community. She is also requesting additional options for the signature program. She feels IB is a poor option because many colleges in the university of Georgia system do not give college credit for IB coursework.

An additional community member shared she understands mitigation strategies need to be used, but they should not be a one size fits all measures. She wondered if all of the mitigation strategies are still justified, especially children eating in the homeroom and watching a video. She also asked if the playground zones are still necessary.

Meeting Minutes

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by: Lisa; Seconded by: Barbara

Members Approving: ALL

Members Opposing: NONE

Members Abstaining: NONE

Motion: Passes

ADJOURNED AT 6:42

Minutes Taken By: Wendy Westwood

Position: Secretary

Date Approved: 12/08/202

Meeting Minutes