

Budget Approval Meeting Minutes

Morningside Elementary School

Date: 3/4/2024

Time: 5:05

Location: Hybrid: In-Person & Virtual via Zoom

I. Call to order: 5:05

Chair – Brooke Linefsky

II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Audrey Sofianos	Х
Parent/Guardian	Ben Knaebel	Х
Parent/Guardian	Jen Lieb	Х
Parent/Guardian	Brooke Linefsky	Х
Instructional Staff	Carla Daniels	
Instructional Staff	Amelia Morel	Х
Instructional Staff	Allison Espelosin	Х
Community Member	Betsy McKay	Х
Community Member	Rob Schuler	Х
Swing Seat	Kareem Hall	Х

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Agenda Motion made by: Amelia Morel Seconded by: Ben Knaebel

Members Approving: All Present Members

Members Opposing: None

Motion: Passed

B. Approval of Previous Minutes Motion made by: Alison Espelosin

Seconded by: Kareem Hall

Members Approving: All Present Members

Members Opposing: None Members Opposing: None

Motion: Passed



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C. Approval of Budget for 2024-2024 made by: Amelia Morel

Seconded by: Alison Espelosin

Members Approving: All Present Members

Members Opposing: None

Motion: Passed

IV. Discussion Items

A. Discussion Item 1: Presentation of the final budget by Principal Sofianos

- Full budget presentation is posted on the GO Team website
- APS provided additional funding that was unexpected \$130,540
- MES already has an instructional coach who can work on the new reading initiative, so we have received approval to hire another Master Teacher Leader instead
- Which also leaves \$15k in additional teacher stipends
- Extra \$6369 in materials and supplies
- With this year's budget we have created a: teacher position, STEM Lab Teacher, Master Teacher Leader, Secretary
- We have also been able to retain Parent Liaison, Master Teacher Leader, and Paraprofessional from when we had CARES funding
- With the current budget, if approved and all the anticipated money received, there will be enough left in reserve to cover a full teacher salary. If the money all is allocated as anticipated MES will hire another teacher next fall to spend the money.

B. Discussion Item 2: Security Grant Survey

- The State of Georgia Department of Education is considering an additional grant to enhance school security in schools statewide. If approved, this would provide each school with \$45,000 annually.
- Interested in feedback on how school leadership and the school community would enhance security in your school with this resource
- Options presented are School Resource Officer (high degree of risk that this
 position can't be staffed); Shared SRO with another school (also higher risk of
 not being filled); Non-Instructional security aide; adding ballistic film to
 windows, additional interior and exterior cameras; adding exterior lighting;
 adding additional badge readers; fencing; window coverings/blinds; two-way
 radios; student I.D. system; additional metal detectors; clear bookbags
- Discussion about whether the district wants to do the same thing across the district, or each school can choose
- Also, the GO team presented the idea that the things that may be beneficial to elementary schools will be different for middle and high schools.



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C. Discussion Item 3: Strategic Priorities Discussion

- Brief discussion around the strategic priorities the GO Team had identified with Principal Sofianos for 2024-25
- Discussion around if these are specific enough for the priorities to be met by the budget next school year
- Altered the wording for the one of the priorities to be a little more specific and also allow for increased flexibility with budget allocations

V. Information Items

- A. Principal's Report Looking at MES MTSS Data for 2023-2024
 - Presenting the tiers of support students are receiving currently
 - Principal Sofianos presented what the different tiers of support are
 - MES started the school year with 27 students in one of the tiers
 - 7 students have either moved back to tier one (general instruction) or have qualified for additional instructional services (like special education or ESOL)
 - The tiers are different from EIP programs and tutor programs

VI. Announcements

- Provide Feeback on the Final APS Student Calendar Survey is posted on MES
 Website open to March 15th
- GO Team members for MES are up to date on their trainings
- GO Team end of the year surveys will come via email links
- Next Meeting: Monday April 15th @ 5:00pm Virtual

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: Amelia Morel Seconded by: Alison Espelosin

Members Approving: All Present Members

Members Opposing: None

Motion: Passes

ADJOURNED AT: 6:25pm