# Call to order

A meeting of the GO Team for Sarah Smith Elementary was held in room 1121 on March 5, 2018. The meeting was called to order by Elizabeth Cox at 3:30pm.

# Attendees

Attendees included:

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| Michael Forehand | Elizabeth Cox | Alfonso Champion | Robert Sarkissian |
| Christina Barnette | Sherry Riley |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

# Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Laura Troup | Connie York | Chiesa Carter |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Chaundra Gibson from the APS GO Team Office was in attendance.

# Is there are quorum present? Circle or highlight Yes or No

# Approve Meeting Agenda and Previous Minutes

Minutes approved? Circle or highlight Yes or No

Mr. Champion made a motion and Ms.Thomas seconded to approve the minutes of the February GO Team meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved

# Discussion/Information/Action Items

1. Chairperson Update: Elizabeth Cox said that the GO Team election process is underway and APS will post the candidates soon. Dr. Forehand suggested having a GO Team candidate forum. Ms. Cox will follow up with the PTA about having a forum at the March 20th PTA meeting.
2. Budget Review and Vote: Dr. Forehand presented the revised budget (see attached slides.) Since our last meeting Dr. Forehand has met with many stakeholders and incorporated their feedback.

* Dr. Forehand explained that the GO Team’s role is to approve the strategic plan breakout, which states the amount of funding allocated to the school’s top four priorities (slides 14 and 15). Dr. Forehand’s propsed strategic plan breakout for the $7,519,740 of APS funding allocated to Sarah Smith is:
  + $5,098,168 to increase ELA Mastery
  + $30,537.00 to increase Math and Science Mastery
  + $181,670 to prepare students for a year or more of growth regardless of their starting point in ELA and Mathematics
  + $27,645.12 to recruit and retain bi-literate instructional staff for dual immersion program
* GO Team members expressed concern that this new format is very different from the 3 budget proposals Dr. Forehand presented at the February meeting. Chaundra Gibson explained that Dr. Forehand should not have presented the 3 detailed budget options to the GO Team. Although GO Teams are asked to “approve the budget,” they are actually being asked to approve a high-level strategic plan breakout.
* Dr. Forehand provided further explanation of how the funding in the strategic plan breakout will be used:
  + The $5,098,168 to increase ELA Mastery will be used to decrease class sizes to roughly 18 students in K, 22-23 students in grades 1-4, and 27 students in grade 5.
  + The $30,537 to increase Math and Science Mastery will be used to increase the hours of the part-time art teacher.
  + The $181,670 to prepare students for a year or more of growth regardless of their starting point in ELA and Mathematics will be used to employ a full-time media specialist and 2 “floating” non-instructional para-professionals.
  + The $27,645.12 to recruit and retain bi-literate instructional staff for dual immersion program will be used to hire 2 bilingual para-professionals (one for 1st grade and one for 2nd grade)
* The GO Team provided the following feedback:
  + Concern about having “floating” para-professionals without specific job descriptions.
  + Why the shift now to making small class size a priority?
  + The format and allocations are confusing.
  + Frustration with the GO Team budget approval process in general.
* GO Team members expessed concerns about voting on the budget because of the lack of detailed budget information provided. Chaundra Gipson stated that if the GO Team is not prepared to vote today, we can meet as many times as we want until the voting deadline this Friday. If the GO Team declines to approve the budget, funding will be held up and that will only hurt the children.
* GO Team members expressed reluctance to vote on the budget because in reality the GO Team is not being asked to approve a budget. Rather,the GO Team is being asked to approve that the principal is allocating the $7.5M of APS funding to the school’s strategic priorities in general. Basically, The GO Team is approving that our school has certain priorities the APS funding will be applied to those priorities.
* Ms. Barnette made a motion and Mr. Sarkissian seconded that we as a GO team approve the strategic priorities and defer to our principal to spend the $7,519740 budget to meet these priorities. The GO Team unanimously approved this motion.

# Public Comment

* Ms. Stiles commented that SST and RTI will being using STAR next year and it will likely be funded by APS.
* Ms. Tsang asked what happens if the GO Team doesn’t approve the budget.

# Adjournment

Elizabeth Cox adjourned the meeting at 4:55pm.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Christina Barnette |  | March 5, 2018 |
| Secretary |  | Date |