

Call to order

A meeting of the Sarah Smith Elementary GO Team was called to order at the Sarah Smith Intermediate Campus on Wicua Road on September 10, 2018 at 3:15 pm.

Attendees

GO Team:

Emily Boatright

Katy Barnes

Jennifer Sand

Elizabeth Cox

Ellie Boydston

Debbie DuBois

Sherry Thurston Riley

Robert Sarkissian

Chris Pirouz

Robin Ortale

Special Guest Speaker: Taylor Neufeld from the APS Police

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

Approval of agenda and minutes

Agenda - Robert Sarkissian motioned to approve the agenda. Debbie Dubois seconded the motion. All members of the GO Team voted in favor.

Minutes - A correction needs to be made about the Public Comment. We did not approve to move the public comment to the beginning - we just had a discussion on it. It was decided to leave it as is. Elizabeth Cox motioned to approve the minutes with this revision. Debbie Dubois seconded. All members of the GO Team approved.

Reports

Principal's Report

1. Leveling Process

- The process is finished and Sarah Smith has gained back every projected loss that was originally forecasted for this year (SRS was originally scheduled to lose people). Right now the student count is around 970-975.
- There are some additional needs at the Primary Campus: a Para Professions for PE, a Para Profession for a technology lab at the PC, and more offerings for specials (since French is for 2nd grade only). Other schools are doing the technology offering.

- As a result of leveling, SRS will be receiving additional school based budget. Some of that funding has been set aside to purchase an I-Station - piloting it in Spanish for Dual Immersion. Additional supplies will also be purchased (copy paper, construction paper and other consumable supplies). Other needs being considered are a dedicated science teacher, a part time dual language parent liaison, and starting ESOL tutoring earlier in the year. The GO Team does not need to vote on any budget revisions.
 - Although it is great to get the additional funds, SRS would have received a larger budget on the front end if the forecasting was more accurate. Because kids are weighted differently, getting the money after the fact is not as beneficial. We need to look into making sure we get better numbers next year. See handout on Budget Development Process for more detailed information on budget update process.
2. Milestone Data - Handouts were provided for year over year Milestones comparisons from 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018. There were a couple of things to note about the scores:
- CCRPI scores don't come out until October. We won't have formula for how we will be judged until December.
 - ELA - grew from last year, but still down from 2015. Math - we gained and are above 2015. Math is stronger than ELA and this is consistent with other schools. More consistent implementation of Eureka Math is one of the reasons why.
 - Only 5th grade takes Science and Social Studies. In 2017 new standards were introduced and they were reflected in 2018. As a result, the scores for 5th grade Science took a hit.
 - We are losing ground for Distinguished learners. We are not pushing everyone up - but instead the higher performing students are moving more toward the middle. The key to solving this problem is to offer differentiation of instruction. We need more consistent progress monitoring for low level and intentional planning for higher level kids. We need common planning to help level the playing field - so all of the teachers are pushing all of the kids. Need more consistency for K-2 (3-5 doing it pretty well). Some solutions have already been put in place such as Foundations and Shurley English. We are being very intentional and thoughtful in the moves that we make.
3. Challenge/Gifted Model Update - Changes that were supposed to happen last year didn't really happen. 1st grade is now phasing in with the new gifted model.
4. Report on traffic issues at both campuses - Taylor Neufeld asked to report. The key problem areas include:
- Back up at Whittington when cars are attempting to turn left at the light.
 - Cross walk in front of Intermediate Campus is an issue because it is not manned - kids trying to cross, parents making illegal left turns.

- Carpool pick up at the Primary Campus gets very backed up and is impacting Old Ivy Road

Possible solutions discussed include:

- On Wieuca near Whittington, look at helping traffic by metering lights better and/or getting a left turn signal with delayed green at Whittington/Wieuca intersection.
- Advertise more broadly for a crossing guard for the IC or recruit crossing guard volunteers - maybe through the PTA.
- Apply for a grant from Safe Routes to School for a crossing flashers

Next Steps for Traffic Issues:

- GO Team voted and unanimously approved having Robert write a letter to the City of Atlanta Traffic Engineering asking for a delayed green/left turn signal at the Wieuca/Whittington intersection.
 - Elizabeth will discuss possible parent volunteers with the PTA.
 - Emily will find out if some employees who have more time in AM could help as well.
 - Robert indicated that the North Buckhead Civic Association could help with purchasing no passing signs for Old Ivy Road.
5. Strategic Plan - The current plan, which was done by the initial GO Team in the first year (2016), was distributed for review. Dr. Forehand created this plan and the GO Team gave input and approved. A template had been given to the GO Team to use.
- ELA Achievement is down - reading needs some work, but writing domains are down and probably needs the focus. When we had a writing teacher, our schools were a lot better. Maybe we need to consider someone to help with better ways to teach writing.
 - Math is on a more positive trajectory.
 - Science data took a hit last year. Decrease in our scores, but there was a new assessment.
 - Need to change the rank order of academic priorities - possibly move #3 to #1.
 - We are getting close to our Key Performance Measures in a number of metrics.
 - When we do our budget in January, it should be going back to our strategic plan. So we need to revise the plan in a way that is very specific so that it all ties back.
 - Need to start looking at this document and focusing. Emily will let us know what areas need to have changes. A working session is needed to discuss the changes and come up with a new Strategic Plan that can be voted on at the next GO Team Meeting. Need to have a new plan in place before budgeting, so the sooner we start the better. The working session will take place on Monday, Sept. 17th at 3:15pm - two hours max.

Chairman's Update

1. GO Team Summit on Sept. 22nd at Maynard Jackson High School. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
2. Upcoming NAPPS Meetings
 - Property Tax Referendum is on Oct. 5th
 - Principal's Roundtable - Nov. 7th at Sarah Smith

Unfinished business

No Unfinished business discussed.

New business

No additional New Business discussed.

Announcements

Go Team Working Session set for Monday, September 14th at 3:15 pm at the IC Media Center.

Chris Pirouz motioned to end meeting. Debbie Dubois seconded. The entire GO Team was in agreement. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Robin Ortale

Secretary

Date of approval