

**Gilbert McNeal Elementary School
School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 15, 2020**

Location: VIRTUAL (via Microsoft Teams Tele/Video-Conference system)

Attending SAC Members:

Principal McGrew

Jolene Stewart

Stacey Pawlak

Mandy Frint

Kelly Smart

Joe Battaglia

Lindsay Milner (admitted as SAC member during this meeting)

Stephanie Guido (admitted as SAC member during this meeting)

Other Meeting Attendees:

Ashley Fulmer

Rachel Hibbert

Jessica Spence

Jamie Goodlad

Noelle Reynolds

Ashley Terry

Rachel Wells

Jen Kovatch

Hind Hussein

Jennifer Mandzik

Kristi Dyer

Sara Garger

Amber Petricca

Nichole Craig

(Attendee list is compiled by the attendance list as reflected in Microsoft Teams combined with attendees by phone who announced their name when speaking or when prompted to do so)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm. upon the motion by Joseph Battaglia, seconded by Stacey Pawlak.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the August, 2020 meeting were approved upon the motion by Jolene Stewart, seconded by Joseph Battaglia

3. New Business

a. COVID Update

Principal McGrew provided updates on COVID. She noted that she found students to be adapting to the new protocols very well. She gave examples of creative ways that teachers have found to

get kids outside more, such as outside snack or reading times. Principal McGrew noted that many students are wearing their masks in situations when masks are not necessary, such as when outside during P.E. She asked for parents to remind students that when they are outside and appropriately spread out from one another, masks are not required to be worn.

It is anticipated that playgrounds will be accessible by students again at some point during the Second Quarter. The school is currently trying to finalize the logistics that will be necessary to ensure that it is clean and safe for students.

Picture day is coming up. Picture day will look different than prior picture days due to distancing requirements, etc. More information to come.

There is an online parent poll that is being utilized to gauge parents' plans on whether or not their children will be going back to school in the Second Quarter. The school and district will utilize this information to plan, so it is important for all parents to take this poll. The link for the online poll was sent out via Connect Ed email.

Principal McGrew noted that, for those E-Learning parents who may choose to send their children back to campus after the First Quarter, it won't take effect the very first day of the quarter, but will happen as soon as possible thereafter.

A parent asked if classrooms were in need of anything specific to be donated. Principal McGrew thanked the parent, and noted that classrooms were pretty well-stocked and thanked PTO for its great efforts prior to the year starting. Principal McGrew noted the water bottles that had been donated, and that there are still some left. She also noted that children can fill their bottles in the classrooms via water bubblers. Water fountains are still not available for drinking, though she expects water fountains to be retrofitted soon to allow for safe drinking.

Principal McGrew noted the creative masks that she has seen students wearing on campus and stated an idea to allow all students to donate one mask each, to be woven or strung together by an artist into a large banner or multiple banners to mark the current year.

The Peace Day 2020 celebration will be on Monday, September 21, 2020. The event will be all virtual and will be run entirely by students. Principal McGrew attributed the success of this to the Leader in Me program.

b. New Membership and Nominations accepted / New Members and Officers

Principal McGrew went over the positions on SAC, describing the make-up of the body, as dictated by the By-Laws. SAC was in need of two new members due to natural attrition of members. Mrs. McGrew noted that she had requested emails from any interested parents, and noted that she received none. Therefore, Mrs. McGrew asked for volunteers from meeting attendees for the two open SAC positions.

Parents, Lindsay Milner and Stephanie Guido, volunteered to serve.

Principal McGrew moved to admit Lindsay Milner and Stephanie Guido as members. Joseph Battaglia seconded the motion. None were opposed and both were admitted as SAC members to serve for the 20-21 and 21-22 school years.

c. SAC Officers

Principal McGrew asked for nominations or self-nominations for the officer positions of SAC: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Recording Secretary.

Joseph Battaglia self-nominated for Chair
Stacy Pawlak self-nominated for Vice-Chair
Lindsay Milner self-nominated for Recording Secretary

No other nominations were announced. Because there was only one nomination for each position, no vote was required.

d. SIP At a Glance

Principal McGrew went over the School Improvement Plan (“SIP”) explaining different aspects of the plan, itself, as well as the focuses and goals of the plan. The Leader in Me program is still in being utilized. There will be a Leadership Academy towards the end of the year. The SIP will focus on ELA, math, and science, as those are state requirements. One of the goals of the SIP is to decrease disruptions in learning. The SIP currently is a draft, which will be reviewed by the District before it can be finalized.

e. Adoption of SAC By-Laws

Principal McGrew spoke about SAC’s By-Laws. Explained that the By-Laws were originally adapted from a template provided by the District with little to no changes. The By-Laws were available for review in advance of today’s meeting. Joseph Battaglia motioned for a vote to adopt the proposed By-Laws. The motion was seconded by Jolene Stewart. All attending SAC members voted in favor of adopting the By-Laws. None were opposed and so the vote passed and the proposed By-Laws were adopted for the 20-21 year.

4. Principal’s Report

a. School Allocation

Because of COVID, the school wasn’t sure of its allocations over the summer. A number of hardship requests from parents wanting their children to attend McNeal were not approved by the District, despite Mrs. McGrew emailing on some of the parents’ behalf. After the 10-day counts, McNeal’s allocation was revised and Ms. Wilder (1st Grade E-learning) was transferred to another school to bring McNeal’s count within its allocations. As a result, Ms. Garger graciously moved from 5th Grade to the 1st Grade E-learning teaching position.

5. Open Discussions

Several parents expressed their gratitude to the teachers, faculty, and staff of McNeal for their hard work and efforts thus far this year.

Principal McGrew suggested a “Coffee and chat” group for parents and teachers to meet virtually for discussion and social engagement and asked for those interested to let her know so it can be arranged.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39pm upon the motion of Stacy Pawlak, which was seconded by Nichole Craig.