

**Gilbert McNeal Elementary School**  
**School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, November 17, 2020**

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

**Attending SAC Members:**

Principal McGrew

Akhlesh Mittal

Stacey Pawlak

Mandy Frint

Kelly Smart

Joe Battaglia

Lindsay Milner

Nichole Craig

**Other Meeting Attendees:**

Ashley Fulmer

Stacey Freeman

Jessica Spence

Ashley Terry

Kristi Dyer

LaRue

(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 6:03pm. upon the motion by Joseph Battaglia, seconded by Stacey Pawlak.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the October 20th, 2020 meeting were approved upon the motion by Stacey Pawlak, seconded by Kelly Smart.

### 3. New Business

#### a. COVID 19 Update

Principal McGrew provided an update on the Principal's meeting from today (November 17<sup>th</sup>). There are spikes in Manatee county. At this point, all K, 1 & 2 Grades all go home to quarantine if a case is found in their classroom. Contact tracing in January will be a case by case situation if everyone if social distancing and wearing masks. The staff is doing an amazing job at keeping everything clean. Students and staff have all adapted beautifully to the new protocols. Another survey is coming in December about e-learning and brick and mortar.

#### b. Principal's Report:

Principal McGrew reported that they are waiting for the information on Florida's budget for the second semester. She is somewhat confident that e-learning will continue but is budget conscious until then.

Benchmarks scores have come in and we are thrilled that McNeal has scored exceedingly well in every grade. We are at the top of our assessments for our district. She was thrilled and extremely happy to share this news.

#### c. Leader in Me:

Ashlie Fulmer and Stacey Freeman co-coordinators for the program shared updates. They reported that this year they are really refining the program and how it works at McNeal. Great Leadership flyers have gone out to staff and students with 3 big goals. Leadership binders have been made and a big thank you to Helping Hands for creating those for us. We are excited about our celebration days (Peace Day, Earth Day and Heritage Day). We also will have Leadership Day and have leadership led opportunities. Our goal is really to be "Action Minded", not just to understand it but really doing it. We have 31 international flags hanging in our cafeteria and we would love to embrace those this year with a student led cultural committee where students can apply to be a part of this. This year 44 copies of the Peace Day photos were purchased.

#### d. Open Discussions:

Jen Kovatch noted praise for the Leader in Me program and McNeal's response to covid 19.

Hind Hussein asked if information could be released if a positive case was a student or teacher? He reported the difficulty on deciding next semester's learning option if we don't know if the cases were kids. Principal, Cheryl McGrew answered noting that due to FERPA, that information cannot be given out. Hind also asked about school choice and would she need to reapply soon?

Principal McGrew addressed her question noting that once you are in, you are in. No need to reapply unless you are an incoming Kindergarten student.

Principal McGrew noted that now is a great time to jump in to apply for McNeal for school choice. The Gullet zone almost always gets approval for school choice to McNeal. She also reported that school choice will begin December 1st and run to January 11<sup>th</sup>. After school touring will begin from 4-6. Additionally, we have videos and flyers to share virtually. Enrollment is way up thanks to new out of town students moving to our district. We are 80% filled.

#### 4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm upon the motion of Joe Battaglia, which was seconded by Stacey Pawlak.