

SAC Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2009 3:00 pm
SPHS Media Center

In attendance:

David Basile, Principal	Michael Berrios, Student
Wendy Bernstein, Asst. Principal	Linda Pegnatore, BTU Steward, Teacher
Tracie Casserly, SAC Chair	Susan Steege, BTU Steward, Teacher
Karen James, Teacher	James McGonagle, Comm. Rep.
Janet Chrystie-Wargula, Parent	Nereida Miller, SAF Chair, Parent
Orkisha Edmond, Reading Coach	Amy Tupper, Parent
Donna Rose, Reading Coach	Lisa Tran, Student
Anthony Acierno, Teacher	Guy Taglienti, Teacher
Jennifer Martin, Comm. Rep.	Zachary Srot, Student
Carol Reynolds-Srot, Parent	Christopher Miller, Student
Diane Stecker, Teacher	David Hepler, Comm. Rep.
Matthew Miller, Student	Michelle Llinas, Teacher
Dori Valdes, Parent	Kayla Davis, Student
Katelyn Drumming, Student	

The meeting was called to order at 3 pm by Ms. Casserly.

Ms. Casserly made a motion to approve the minutes from the November SAC meeting. Ms. Miller noted that the graduation date was wrong, it was noted, it will be amended. Ms. Miller than seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All were in favor, the motion passed, the November minutes were approved.

Ms. Llinas shared that Title One Parent Involvement plan had passed. She also discussed the Literacy nights South has been having. She asked that the school Parent Compact be signed and returned to her in room 284. She also passed out some Title One brochures.

Dr. Basile spoke about the State visit on Dec. 1. He said they were very favorable in their initial feedback. It will take a few weeks to get their official written report. He will share that report at the January SAC meeting.

Ms. Rose spoke about the after school tutoring program. Dr. Pegnatore and Ms. Steege inquired as to how many students are showing up, and if it was open to all grades. Ms. Rose stated that it is open to all grades and that many students are coming to the tutoring for extra help. She said it depends on the day as to how many show up. Some days, the classroom is full, other days , it may be 6 or 7 students.

Ms. Stecker spoke about the disappointment of some faculty members that we no longer have Saturday School. Mr. Acierno and Mr. Taglienti spoke about how Saturday School was run in the past, and shared how they incorporated FCAT prep. into the Saturday School program. In the past, SAC funds were used to fund Saturday School. Dr. Basile

stated that the rules for the use of SAC funds have changed, and that you cannot tie SAC funds into something of a punitive nature, like Saturday School. If we are to have Saturday School, the funding must come from another source or from volunteers. SAC funds must be used to meet the goals of our SIP, and SAC has already voted to use those funds for the after school tutoring program, FCAT camp and an ACT prep. class.

Ms. Chrystie-Wargula asked when the ACT prep. class would be starting. Ms. Rose stated that it would be starting after winter break in January. It would be 2 groups of 25 students that meet for 2 hours on Wednesdays. One hour would be for Math and One hour would be for English. Ms. Chrystie-Wargula shared that the principal at Tropical found a way to run FCAT prep. classes through the Plantation Community School program at a very low cost to parents of around \$2 per student, plus maybe a \$5 fee for materials as well as some small registration fees.

Ms. Bernstein spoke about FCAT camp. She stated that the program will be called “It takes a Village” and that they are still working on the details. . She does not yet know if it will be an afterschool or a Saturday activity. She will have more details very soon.

Ms. Edmond spoke about the BAT 2 Reading Data. Unfortunately, we slipped a little when comparing the BAT 1 Reading Data to the BAT 2 Reading Data. However, many teachers noted that they observed many students not taking the BAT 2 as seriously as the BAT 1. Students know these do not really count for them individually and do not always try their best on these practice tests. The Reading teachers are working hard to make sure the students do not slip and do well when it really counts, on the actual FCAT test in March.

Ms. Bernstein stated the statistic that if a student fails Algebra I or English I during the first semester, they have an 80% chance of not graduating! It was also discussed that the Algebra II students are greatly lacking in their Algebra I skills. Ms. Martin asked if this had been communicated to our feeder schools, such as Seminole Middle School. Dr. Basile stated that we do participate in vertical teaming with our feeder schools and are trying to inform the middle school Algebra I teachers of what is going on in our Algebra II classes.

On that note, Dr. Basile spoke about the APEX credit recovery program. It is a computer based way for students to retake classes they failed to make up those credits. The county purchased 100 seats for every high school. Currently, we have 2 teachers running an APEX program, Mr. Acierno and Mr. Riskin. They each have 35 students that they oversee. The other 30 seats are available to students to do the APEX program on their own. It has been very successful and should be a way to bring up our graduation rate.

There were 2 nominations for the SAC Employee of the Month, Pamela Black and James Overfield. Dr. Basile moved that we vote for both of them for SAC Emp. of the Month for December, Ms. Tupper seconded the motion, all were in favor, the motion passed.

In new business, Mr. McGonagle shared that the Kiwanis Club would be having an Antique Car Rally on Jan. 3rd at the Broward Mall. The Kiwanis Club has donated each year to our Key club and to the SPHS Solar Car program. They also provide books to elementary schools in Plantation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 pm.