

School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting Minutes September 29, 2021

Members Present: Chris Spilker, Chris Chervenak, Hillary Johnson, Julie Swanson, Stephen Turk, Mitchell Dawkins, Erin Dawkins, Marjorie Bresson

Meeting called to order at 7:03. Prayer led by Mr. Turk.

Principal's Report

- 2nd grade is a large class. Teaching assistants have been hired to help out - Mrs. Barlow on M/W and Mrs. Smithson on T/W/Th.
- Three staff members are currently out due to COVID-19. This has made for some challenging times since substitutes are hard to find.
- Three-year-old preschool was closed for the week due to a positive COVID-19 case among the staff. No student cases were reported.
- School absences for students have also been higher than usual (12-13 students a day). Thank you to families who have kept children home as a precaution when they are not feeling well. We have not had any COVID-19 cases among students so far this year.
- The new gym teacher, "Mr. Z" is a welcome addition to GA school. He runs a rigorous gym class, so your child may be coming home tired on gym day.
- Ms. Donahue, our new Media Specialist and Computer teacher is doing well. New materials and books have arrived and are being prepared. The library is currently out of commission, but will be back in operation soon.
- 30 new tablets and 20 new Chromebooks have been purchased and are now in use.
- Star 360 tests are still in process and should be completed by October 8th.
- Many new families have joined us at GA this year. We have become even more culturally diverse. We welcome them into our Guardian Angels family and look forward to showing them what we are all about.
- Cleaning protocols continue to be in place. Besides normal cleaning done by staff during the day, deeper disinfecting takes place every weekend.
- In places where items are shared within the building, students sanitize when entering and exiting, as an extra precaution.
- Background checks for adult volunteers within the school have been delayed. It is taking longer than normal this year, partially due to a shortage of staff.
- Thanks to Julie Swanson and Erin Dawkins who have each contributed 5 years to this SAC Committee. Their service has been appreciated, however their term is up. Mr. Turk will be inviting some new members to the team soon.

New Business

- Back in 2019, Mr. Spilker and Mr. Turk attended a training offered by the Archdiocese of Detroit (AOD). As part of that training, the AOD has required all School Advisory Committees (SACs) to follow particular guidelines, so that all committees would be operating under the same structure. GA's SAC Committee was preparing to address and restructure our bylaws back in 2019, when we were interrupted by the pandemic. We placed the bylaws restructuring on hold while we had more pressing things to address. Today a final revision was presented, which brings our bylaws into compliance with the AOD's guidelines. A motion was made by Mitchell Dawkins to approve the new bylaws, seconded by Chris Chervenak. SAC members unanimously voted to approve the new bylaws.
- The new guidelines clearly indicate that SAC Committees are not to operate as a discipline or grievance committee for parents. Our role is to provide feedback to school administration. Therefore, it was suggested that the parent concern portion of the SAC page on the GA website be moved to a more appropriate location which more clearly aligns with the role of the SAC Committee.
- Mr. Turk asked for feedback on the new food service program. Some parents really liked the first month of school, where two entire options were offered each day. This option was discontinued by food service due to difficulty with the supply chain right now. Several parents mentioned their child was disappointed that the salad options were discontinued as it was a popular option selected by their child and the quality was reportedly very good.
- SAC Committee established a calendar of meetings for the remainder of the year. Meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month, with the exception of when they fall during a school break.
- SAC Committee also wishes to thank Erin Dawkins and Julie Swanson for their years of dedication to the committee. We appreciate you sharing your knowledge and wisdom with us!

Meeting adjourned at 8:08.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marjorie Bresson, SAC secretary