

**School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting Minutes**  
**September 18, 2024, 7:45 AM**  
**Location: Teacher's Lounge (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Near Music Room)**

**Members Present:**

- Stephen Turk
- Molly Van Dusen
- Erin Dawkins
- Chris Chervenak
- Lauren Bukowski
- Rhiannon LaForest
- Angela Morgan
- Christy Samona

- Meeting called to order at 7:46 AM

- **Opening Prayer**

- **Introductions of SAC Members & Roles**

- All members introduced themselves, indicated what grades their students are in, and how many years they have served on SAC.

- **Principal Report**

- The school has updated their protocol when dealing with discipline for the school. Patricianly in the Academy, students receive an automatic detention for a missed homework assignment (staying after school from 3:15pm-3:45pm). This policy has worked very well since the start of school, and students have been receptive to the consequences.
- It has been very helpful to have Mrs. Van Dusen! We are glad to have her helping hand!
- Mr. Turk is back in the classroom teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, and is very proud of the level of maturity that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have shown.
- The school is continuing to support the replacement of 25-40 Chromebooks and also 30 tablets for the younger grades, per year. Looking to purchase new computers in the future.
- The school had a new intercom system installed over the summer. This new intercom allows for communication between classrooms and the office. Currently, there are plans to integrate the gym into the communication capabilities.
- Due to the school growth and lack of space, the school will need to take back the GAP Room on the second floor for next year. Currently GAP items and used uniforms are stored in this space.
- The staff is continuing to have numerous internal conversations revolving around school safety.
- The school is waiting on approval for a grant that would allow for the installation of ballistic film on all lower level classroom windows. Previously, all doors received this film.

- In support of school safety initiatives, the Clawson Police continues to pop into the school from time to time out of courtesy.
- **Review of SAC Bi-Laws**
  - The official, and only, copy of the SAC Bi-Laws was kept in a binder, and the binder has been misplaced.
  - Erin is currently working on drafting a new set of Bi-Laws.
  - Bi-Laws are being drafted to follow similar Bi-Laws at other schools and with input from the AOD.
  - Erin to provide a draft of the Bi-Laws by the next SAC Meeting.
- **Discussion of Parent Concerns**
  - **Desire for consistent policy communication regarding student allergies and how they are addressed.**
    - There is a concern, especially in the younger grades, that a student may bring a snack that contains an allergen, and accidentally share it with a student who is allergic.
    - It was suggested that the school provides a list to PreK-5 parents on acceptable snacks and lunch items that are allergy free. Some items might appear safe, but might not be.
    - It would be encouraged that teachers enforce what can and can't be brought into the classroom and be consistent with the message from class to class.
  - **Creating a more streamlined process for signing up for after school clubs and concerns with them filling quickly.**
    - Many parents work, and may not see the e-mail regarding a club sign up until later in the evening, or even the next day. Also, some parents may need a day to determine if the student can accommodate the club in their schedule. In the meantime, the club has already filled.
    - It was suggested at all school activities, the day and time in which they will occur, and when registration starts, be shared with all parents at the Back to School Picnic so families can plan accordingly.
    - If a club is full, all who have expressed interest be placed in a lottery. Those students who are chosen through the lottery process, would be allowed to join the club. If chosen, the student would not be allowed to join the next lottery to give other students a chance.
    - Club size is limited to staff availability, but parent volunteers may be considered to help with club size. The school is growing and would like to accommodate those who would like to join a club.
    - The GA Community is appreciative the staff that volunteers their time for the clubs, and we are hoping all students can take part!

- **Contradicting material sold by Scholastic Book Club vs. Other Book Clubs that support GA philosophy and beliefs.**
  - The in-school book fair seems to have appropriate content, but the order form flyers sent home and online store do not.
  - Will look into a Faith Based Book Club that supports GA's philosophy.
  
- **GA's response to a student's mental distress and prevention of in school violent behaviors.**
  - If a student demonstrates behavior or alludes to harming oneself or another staff or student, the Clawson Police will be immediately notified.
  - The student's family will then be brought in for a meeting to discuss the concerns.
  - The student will be asked not to return to school until an evaluation by a Therapist can be completed.
  - Upon evaluation, the student may or may not be allowed to return to school.
  
- **Open Form**
  - Overall, the school year is off to a great start, and there is a lot of positive energy, and a lot of good things happening.
  - It was noted the improved behavior and outlook that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class has shown this year. Students are enjoying school and have a very positive outlook.
  - The increase in communication amongst the Academy has been appreciated.
  
- **Next Meeting:**
  - Wednesday October 16, 2024 at 7:45 AM
  
- Meeting adjourned at 8:29 AM

**Agenda respectfully submitted by Lauren Bukowski, SAC Secretary**