

Willis Elementary School SAC Committee

Meeting Minutes

9/17/19

I. Call to order

Mrs. Kathy Price called to order the regular meeting of the Willis Elementary School Student Advisory Committee (SAC) at 6:05 pm on 9/17/19 at Willis Elementary School library.

II. Meeting Attendees: Kathy Price (principal), Courtni Darpino, Crystal Rothhaar, Robert Burney, James Fox, David Fernandez, Hannah Cuevo, Jenny French, Jennifer Danahy, (other names to be entered)

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting- meeting minutes from May 2019 meeting distributed and reviewed. Motion to approve brought by Courtni Darpino, second by David Fernandez. Motion passed.

IV. Principal's Report

- a) Fluency Folders- new fluency folders will be distributed to address possibly deficits in reading. All grade levels will have them and each folder will be tailored to the individual students reading level. This program will be rolled out in grades 1-5 and kindergarten to hopefully begin in January 2020. **Each student in grades 1-2 will have a folder. Students in grade 3-5 will only have a folder if it has been shown that the student is deficient in reading.**
- b) Safety and Security update- new wall is in place in front vestibule and is working.
- c) New Construction- barriers have been put up and the basketball courts are in the process of being moved. Mrs. Price will be sending home a letter to update parents on status of construction.
- d) Enhancements to GECKO awards: awards will be more specialized this year. They will be given to students in various categories: G- great effort, E- excellence in academics, C- creativity in a special (each quarter will

highlight a different special: science, STEM, music, art), K-kindness, O-outstanding citizenship (based on our current 8 keys of excellence). 4th and 5th graders will also be honored each quarter with an honor roll breakfast. Students must achieve a 3.0 (all A's and B's and at least all "S" in responsibility of the learner)

- e) School updates- work order has been placed to have sod put down on recess playground. County has stated that the size of our field and the number of students will not allow grass to grow. New gaga ball pit for recess play will be arriving and built soon.

V. New Business- per meeting agenda

- a) Election of new executive board: Crystal Rothhaar- president, Courtni Darpino- vice president, Jennifer Danahy- secretary. Other board members to include: David Fernandez, Robert Burney, Kathy Price, Billie Jo Fintel, Christa Nash, Jenny French, Hannah Cuervo.
- b) Revision of SAC by-laws: new by-laws to state that the board will consist of 10 members. 5 parents and 5 school employees consisting of principal, vice-principal, 2 teachers and 1 student support personnel. Motion to approve brought by Jennifer Danahy, seconded by Courtni Darpino. Motion passed.
- c) School Improvement plan- presented in handout form for goals to improve FSA scores in all areas. See attached. (need to attach handout). Motion to approve by Courtni Darpino, seconded by David Fernandez. Motion passed.
- d) School Improvement funding- school given \$2200 to put toward school improvements. SAC board elected to put funding toward securing substitute teachers to allow for grade level collaborative planning. Motion to pass by Crystal Rothhaar, seconded by Courtni Darpino. Motion Passed.
- e) Dates for future SAC meetings: October 15, November 19, January 14, February 18, March 24, April 21, May 19

VI. New Business- not on agenda

- a) Parents present to discuss concerns re: gifted program at Willis. Kathy Price explained that we follow a gifted inclusion classroom model in which students identified as gifted are to be placed in a classroom with a gifted

certified teacher. The rest of the class is then made up of average to above average level students and/or any students deemed appropriate by the placement committee. The placement committee will use grades, iReady scores and teacher/counselor recommendations. These students have been deemed able to keep up with rigors of pace and material and all classroom instruction will be individualized to the learner as appropriate. We have 9% of the students at Willis identified as gifted currently. Working toward trying to increased number of teachers who are gifted certified. Plan is for each year the process will begin again and the classes will be designed again. There is no guarantee that a child will be in the class with the same students the following year.

VII.Adjournment

Courtnei Darpino motioned to adjourn meeting, David Fernandez seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Jennifer Danahy

*Chair Notes: notification of meeting sent out in flyers, email and posted on PTO website.