

GIFFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

August 30, 2017

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The School Advisory Council (SAC) for Gifford Middle School was called to order by Chairman Paul Tomlinson at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 30, 2017, in the Gifford Middle School Media Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Tomlinson, Chair
Tosha Jones, Principal
Jeremy Szpaichler, Asst. Prin.

Theresa Bounassi
Jennifer Cummings
Michelle Murphy
Debra Schroeder

MINUTES: Michelle Murphy moved to approve the Minutes of the May 18, 2017 meeting. Jennifer Cummings seconded, and the motion carried.

Theresa Bounassi moved to approve the Minutes of the July 13, 2017 meeting. Michelle Murphy seconded, and the motion carried.

PRINCIPAL UPDATES

- GMS has had a smooth start to the school year. Schedules are balanced with all core classes having 22 or fewer students. Most electives are at 30 students or fewer.
- Welcome to our new Assistant Principal, Jeremy Szpaichler. He is a former math coach who will be working with each Department to analyze data, in addition to other AP duties.
- Custom signs with teacher names are now posted above each classroom door.
- This year's Master Schedule has been developed so that each Department shares a common planning period, which enables Departments to meet for collaborative planning.
- Grade Level Team meetings will also be held monthly.
- Gifford Middle School has placed the order for AR 360.
- Mrs. Sleeper placed in the IRSC Eclipse Contest, so one of her classes will be able to take a field trip to the IRSC Planetarium.
- Open House is scheduled for Thursday, August 31, 2017, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. All parents will be asked to meet in the Cafeteria at 5:30. From there, parents will be dismissed to follow their child's schedule, meeting in each class for ten minutes.

Gifford Middle School started the Open House Challenge, against other schools in the District, so teachers and parents are encouraged to take pictures at Open House and post the photos to demonstrate how many parents attend Open House.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Gifford Middle School Improvement Plan (SIP) is being aligned with the School District's five-year plan. The Rough Draft will be completed by August 31, and the final is due in October. SAC will look at the Rough Draft at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- After discussion, it was agreed that GMS will provide more information electronically. The school will send a message when the Newsletter is posted. Also, there will be more of an emphasis on providing parents with short, informational updates, as needed. At the end of the first marking period, GMS will survey parents to ask if they are receiving adequate information in a timely manner.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Cummings moved to adjourn. Mrs. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Schroeder

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GMS Language Arts Teacher

GMS SAC Secretary