



Gifford Middle School
SAC
Minutes
November 7, 2018

CALL TO ORDER. Paul Tomlinson called the SAC Meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE. The following members were present:

Tosha Jones, Principal
Liliana Santamaria-Barrett, GMS Support Staff
Jennifer Cummings, Community Representative
Michele Murphy, GMS Parent
Debra Schroeder, GMS Faculty
Tracey Segal, GMS Parent
Paul Tomlinson, GMS Faculty and SAC Chair

SUBSTANCE AWARENESS PRESENTATION. Mrs. Christina DeFalco, Life Skills Training Coordinator for the Substance Awareness Center of Indian River County and GMS Life Skills Coach, presented information about the Center's programs and initiatives. The **SAFIR Mission** *is to empower and mobilize our community to reduce the use of alcohol, marijuana and other drugs by Indian River County youth through education, support, collaboration, and action.* Last year, a curriculum was piloted in fifth grade, and this year all SDIRC fifth-graders will participate in an evidence-based curriculum to raise awareness about the dangers of substance abuse and empower students to resist and/or delay the start of these negative behaviors. All Indian River County middle school students, grades 6-8, continue to receive instruction in social skills, personal skills, and drug-resistant skills during the three years of middle school. Research shows that this three-year middle-school curriculum stays with students for six years. Data from the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS) indicate there has been a significant decline in the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs by students in the past ten years. One alarming trend, however, is the dramatic increase in the use of students using E-cigarettes and vaping in the last two years. The Substance Awareness Center and the School District of Indian River County want to help students and parents understand the risks and consequences, including the fact that the Surgeon General predicts those using E-cigarettes and vaping will become addicted to nicotine.

MINUTES. Ms. Murphy moved to amend the Minutes from the October 03, 2018 meeting by correcting the typographical error in the amount spent on Accelerated Reader. A comma (not a period) is needed after the 3, showing the correct amount as \$3,902.50. With that amendment, Ms. Murphy moved to approve the Minutes. Mr. Tomlinson seconded, and the motion carried.

PRINCIPAL UPDATES. Ms. Jones reported:

- Student Council is currently conducting a Food Drive. Donations will be delivered to the Sunset Apartments in Gifford. Students will assist with collecting, sorting, packaging and delivering the food.
- Student Council is also collecting pop tops for Ronald McDonald House. This will be a year-long project.
- Gifford Middle announced the school's Teacher of the Year is Debra Schroeder, ELA Teacher and the Employee of the Year is Liliana Santamaria-Barrett, ELL Support.
- The GMS Veterans' Day Salute is scheduled for Monday, November 12 at 9:00 a.m. The Rev. Sylvester McIntosh, a former Marine who served in Vietnam and recipient of the Silver Star, will be the Keynote Speaker.
- The process has started to determine how to allocate the School Recognition money, which is coming from the State of Florida due to Gifford Middle School's "B" grade for the 2017-2018 school year. Step 1 has been completed and Step 2 is underway.

NEW BUSINESS.

- The Gifford Middle School 2018-2019 School Improvement Plan (SIP) includes three goals:
 - (1) Teachers will plan for and implement standards-based instruction that is intentionally designed to scaffold pedagogical strategies ensuring all students are authentically engaged through rigorous learning experiences leading to increased student achievement and autonomy.
 - (2) Promote a caring, collaborative, and responsive staff culture which fosters positive and supportive learning and work environments that meets the needs of all students and staff.
 - (3) Increase school capacities to effectively engage all stakeholders through a fluid and continuous Tier I/Tier II MTSS Problem-Solving Process to positively impact student achievement and behavior.Ms. Cummings moved to approve the 2018-2019 Gifford Middle School Improvement Plan (SIP). Ms. Segal seconded, and the motion carried.
- Currently, Gifford Middle School is providing one late bus which runs on Tuesday afternoons. It is anticipated that a second bus will be needed for the second semester when there will be more after-school programs offered. SAC is asked to help pay for this expense. Ms. Segal moved to fund an after-school bus on Tuesday afternoons, not to exceed \$1,500. Ms. Cummings seconded. During discussion, it was agreed that SAC will talk about supporting the addition of a second bus for the second semester at a future meeting. The motion carried.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Schroeder

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GMS ELA Teacher and SAC Secretary