



Gifford Middle School  
SAC  
Minutes  
May 1, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Paul Tomlinson called the SAC Meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE.** The following members were present:

Jeremy Szpaichler, Assistant Principal  
Liliana Barrett, GMS Staff  
Michele Murphy, GMS Parent  
Debra Schroeder, GMS Faculty  
Tracey Segal, GMS Parent  
Paul Tomlinson, GMS Faculty and SAC Chair

GUEST: Jeena Lakins, GMS Media Specialist

**ACCELERATED READER (AR) PROGRAM.** Mrs. Lakins, GMS Media Specialist thanked the SAC Committee for funding the AR program during the 2018-2019 school year. Accelerated Reader (AR) is software for K-12 schools that monitors students' reading. Mrs. Lakins requested that SAC fund AR during the 2019-2020 school year. She explained that there will be increases:

- (1) the fee for each student will increase from \$6.85 to \$7.00,
- (2) the platform hosting fee will increase from \$635 to \$750, and
- (3) the number of student licenses will increase from 550 to 600.

The cost for 2019-2020 will be \$4,450.

Mrs. Schroeder moved that SAC allocate \$4,450 for AR in 2019-2020. Ms. Segal seconded, and the motion carried.

**MINUTES.** Ms. Segal moved to approve the Minutes of the April 3, 2019 meeting.

Ms. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried.

**PRINCIPAL UPDATES.** Mr. Szpaichler reported:

- SDIRC is currently in the midst of "testing season." One hundred percent of the GMS students took the Writing FSA in April. During the first two weeks in May, all students will take the Reading FSA. Depending on the math course in which students are enrolled, they will take the Math FSA or the End-of-Course (EOC) Exam for Algebra or

Geometry. All seventh graders will take the Civics EOC. All eighth-grade students will take the Science FCAT.

- Using Title IV funds, GMS teachers continue to provide after-school sessions to help students prepare for the state exams. Two extra busses are available and more students have been staying after-school than did so last year. Additional remediation continues by teachers in their classrooms during SPLASH.
- Eighth-graders who need to make-up credits are working on Course Recovery during lunch and SPLASH. The goal is to help these students earn the credits needed so that they can move on to ninth-grade with their peers.
- The final Chorus Concert was on April 24, 2019. Additional End-of-Year events will include band and orchestra concerts.
- The 2019 Parent Survey was distributed with third-quarter report cards and again at the All-Star Awards Night on April 25, 2019. The survey can be completed using a computer or on paper.
- Year-end field trips have been scheduled. Eighth-graders will go to GradVenture on May 3, 2019. Later in May, seventh graders will go to Andretti's Thrill Park, and sixth graders will go to Skate Factory.
- A Candlelight Induction Ceremony for the new members of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) was held on April 29, 2019 for seventh and eighth graders. Ms. Jackie Jones, the faculty advisor, is planning a service project to be completed before the end of the current school year.

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

- **DOLPHIN DAYS.** Paul Tomlinson moved to allocate up to \$500 to promote and fund Dolphin Days for incoming sixth-grade students. The money will be used to mail information about the sessions, provide snacks, and pay teachers who organize and run the events. Mrs. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried.
- **UNIFIED DRESS.** Mrs. Murphy moved to modify the GMS Unified Dress Code as follows:
  - (1) Add gray as a color for bottoms - pants, shorts, and skirts.
  - (2) Add a section about OUTER WEAR to include a single, solid-color, hoodless sweater, sweatshirt, or jacket. Logos/brand names on such items may only be two-inches or less in diameter. Hoods are not allowed. Ms. Segal seconded, and the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT.** With no further business, Mrs. Schroeder moved to adjourn. Ms. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried. Chairman Tomlinson adjourned the SAC meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Debra Schroeder*

Debra Schroeder

GMS ELA Teacher and SAC Secretary