



Gifford Middle School  
SAC  
Minutes  
December 16, 2020

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

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

- Paula Dudley, GMS Staff
- Tosha Jones, GMS Principal
- Tracey Segal, GMS Parent
- Paul Tomlinson, GMS Faculty and SAC Chair
- Caryn Toole, GMS Parent (via Zoom)

**MINUTES.** Tracey Segal moved to approve the SAC Minutes of October 21, 2020. Tosha Jones seconded, and the motion carried.

**PRINCIPAL UPDATES.**

i-READY.

- As the first semester is coming to an end, students are taking the next i-Ready Diagnostics for reading and math. More students demonstrate growth when they work for an incentive, so those who reach their goal on at least one of the Diagnostics will participate in the i-Ready Celebration on Friday, December 18, 2020. During the last hour of the school day, eligible students will enjoy time for sports, games, and treats.

REMOTE LEARNING.

- Gifford Middle currently has about 149 students who are still working from home, either attending classes daily on the transitional plan or using the virtual school platform. An order by the Governor of Florida extends the option of remote learning into the second semester and through the end of the school year. There are, however, conditions for students to continue remote learning. Students who are failing virtual classes will be moved to transitional learning or return to brick-and-mortar in-person classes. If a transitional student is not progressing academically, he or she will be encouraged to return to in-person classes. Parents of students who are failing classes while using the transitional model but do not want their child/children to return to in-person classes will have to sign a letter acknowledging they are aware of the lack of progress and understand that the child/children may be retained or may

not be able to graduate. School counselors are contacting parents to see how these families plan to proceed.

COVID-19.

- As of December 16, 2020, there have been three positive case of COVID at Gifford Middle, two adults and one student. Ten students who were in close contact with the student who tested positive have also been quarantined.
- SHINING STAR AWAD.  
At a recent School Board Meeting, Gifford Middle was awarded the Shining Star Award for its Sunset Apartments Food Drive. Through the generosity of the school community, these apartment residents were provided non-perishable food items, paper products, and PPE, such as masks and hand sanitizer.

**OLD BUSINESS.**

- RECORDING STUDENT ATTENDANCE.  
Paula Dudley had previously asked Principal Jones if the School District planned to modify attendance codes to more accurately represent student attendance, especially for those who leave early during a block-schedule class. Ms. Jones contacted the District about this, but there is no plan to make any changes. Ms. Jones stated that Gifford Middle is following the SDIRC procedures for coding and recording student attendance.
- AFTER-SCHOOL BUSSES.  
Ms. Jones reported that GMS will use the money approved by SAC earlier this year when the grant money received for after-school transportation has been depleted. She will, however, apply for the grant again for the second semester.

**NEW BUSINESS.** There was no New Business.

**ADJOURNMENT.** With no further business, Ms. Dudley moved to adjourn. Ms. Segal seconded, and the motion carried. Chairman Tomlinson adjourned the SAC Meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paul Tomlinson  
GMS Social Students Teacher and SAC Chair