

DURBIN CREEK SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting minutes for Thursday, October 17, 2024

Start: 4:09 PM End: 5:12 PM

Recorder: Dara Giddings, SAC member and parent

Welcome and Call to Order: Wendy Napier called meeting to order at 4:09 PM

Introduction/Voting of Members:

2024/2025 Proposed Members:

Janelle Dunathen
Elizabeth Frankland
Tarra Lowe
Carol Hardison
Tanesha Arthur
Indra Reddy
James Chen
Elizabeth Teelon
Lisa Peacock
Diane Tucket
Dara Giddings

Staff Members:

Jill Tor – Pre K
Stephanie Boswell – K
Sofia Pezzella – 1
Jean Kepner – 2
Erica Warwick – 3
Wendy Napier – 4
Ali Goetz – 5
Teri Heath – Resource
Ashley McCormick – Principal

Motion to approve: New Kindergarten, First Grade, and Fifth Grade, and Elizabeth Teelon

Motion: Jeannie Kepner Seconded: Dara Giddings

Voting and Approval of Bylaws: No changes from last year. A vote is not required.

Meeting Schedule Approval for 2024-25 School Year:

September 10, 2024
October 17, 2024 – adjusted
November 12, 2024
December 10, 2024
January – No Meeting
February 11, 2025

March 11, 2025

April 8, 2025

May 13, 2025

Motioned: Heyner

Seconded: Mentzer

Budget Update:

Current Budget Balance is \$852.61

This is smaller than expected. SAC Budget comes from recognition funds; last two times a vote was help they did not vote to give funds to SAC.

We have funded some wonderful programs in the past, including programable robots for STEM, Jarrett Lerner came as a visiting author, and Mystery Science.

In preparation for the hopes that we will have funds this year we will be sending out budgets to the faculty and a suggestion was made last year to send out educational information informing the staff of things that SAC was able to do.

Funds Request – Andrea O’Brien, Media Specialist:

Taryn Sowders, children’s book author come visit to our students, Pre-K through 5th grade. She was a middle school math teacher before she became an author. Will be splitting the day visit with Sebastian Middle School so that lowers the costs, and she is coming from Orlando, so that also further lowers the cost. After Jarrett Lerner’s visit last year, we had a huge influx of students wanting to write their own stories, so now we have a section in our Library where we display books that they students have written.

Mystery of the Radcliff Riddle – 4-5

Whole-y Cow Fractions – 2-3

Get to know an Author for Pre-K – 1

Students would have an opportunity to purchase books.

Request for \$734 to cover DCE portion

Questions:

When is the deadline – we can ask

Can we use Fun Run funds? – PTO funding is separate from SAC

Has she asked for funds from someone else? – We can ask. She did with the author visit last year, but I don’t know if she has done so for this request.

Motion to table – Elizabeth Teelon Seconded – Tracy Herner

Next action – if the deadline is before the next meeting, Wendy Napier will send an email out to let everyone know that the deadline passed.

District PPT Presentation – School Improvement Plan (SIP); SAC Funding:

Funding is aligned to the School Improvement Plan. This is a document that all schools must provide and is developed by the school leadership team, led by the principal. Programs requested by teachers, test scores, and more are all considered.

Each school must have an area of focus. Once SIP is finalized, the plan is presented to SAC. All funds' requests must align with areas of focus, which are in line with the surveys completed by staff and parents.

Must benefit the entirety of the school and the SIP.

Approval of Minutes from September Meeting:

Grade Level/Team Reports:

Pre-K:

In pre-k blended classes are finishing up the Ball Study. Also worked on rules, routines, and rituals. Ball study is all about balls, how to make balls, the color of balls. About to start focusing on letters, letter sounds, and formation.

Support Classrooms are working on functional communication.

All classes are working towards independence.

Kindergarten:

Getting used to rituals and routines and being a good citizen. Done with Q1 assessments and now we are going to work on building sentences and the writing process. We work in thematic units that are cross curricular. September was apples, so tasted apples and wrote about how they tasted and then did math with apple seeds. October is Community Helpers, Station 19 came out to day and let the kiddos look at the trucks and talk about Fire Safety. Next week will be pumpkins. October 31 is character dress up day as a book character or community helper. Field Trip in February. We are also going to be looking at in-school field trips.

1st grade:

Working on phonics and digraphs, main topics and details then into poetry. Subtraction up to 20. Writing – personal narrative; so, we have been doing activities so we can all have the same experience to write about. Social Studies – rights and responsibilities. Field Trip in November with a group from St Augustine talking about colonial America. Bat day next week, Character Book Report on October 31, and pumpkin science.

2nd grade:

Reading current focus is theme, message and lesson. How can we connect with that at home or in our daily lives. Math working on addition and subtraction word problems with different strategies. Working with partners to see how others solve problems. Writing is fluid, focusing on grammar and sentence structure; Narrative vs opinion and working on expressing thoughts into complete sentences. Science we are looking at plant and animal life cycle. October 31 is Book Character Day; November 1 has a rotation through the classrooms for the Fall Festival. Field Trip to St Augustine Aquarium is rescheduled to Friday, November 22. Fun Run – the classes have been enjoying different incentives and different rewards.

4th grade:

ELA we are in informational writing, starting to move into poetry. Math is very deep into multiplication, and about to do division. October 31 is our 3rd Mad Scientist event. Each classroom will be a different science experiment. It's so much fun. In November, we are going to NASA on Nov 15.

5th grade:

Field Trip Interest Form was sent out September 17th to parents. Working on scheduling a Spring Field Trip to Islands of Adventure at Universal Studios. We have a tentative date, but nothing is finalized yet. Will continue to update.

Science:

Continuing our 3rd science Unit on Energy. Focusing on Potential, Kinetic, Mechanical, Chemical, and light/heat/thermal energy. Incorporating demonstrations and labs to keep student interests.

Math:

Conclude Topic 3 – Multiplying multi-digit whole numbers using standard algorithm. Continuing to increase our multiplication fluency. Starting Topic 4 which focuses on multiplying multi-digit numbers with decimals.

Reading:

Throughout October and beginning of November, students will be learning Author's Claim/Argument with Evidence to support their claim, and reviewing Text Structures, Central Idea and Relevant Details, and Nonfiction Text Features.

In Mid-November, students will be moving into more literary standards, starting with Character Perspective!

Writing:

Students will continue learning about Informative (Expository) Essays.

Social Studies:

Students are currently in Unit 2- Historical Inquiry and Analysis, Chapter 3: Thinking Like a Historian. Students will be learning about primary and secondary sources and timelines! After Chapter 3, we will be moving into Chapter 4: Compare Ancient American Civilizations. We also have a hands-on field trip coming up!

Principal's Report:

Hi folks! Due to the rescheduling of our meeting, I now cannot attend due to an overlap in meetings 😞

I am so sorry to miss this time with you, as I so enjoy it!

We have lots going on! If you know a PTO board member, please give them a high five. They are working around the clock to make fun events happen for our students! And they are doing this with a small and mighty team! As you talk with neighbors and plan to attend events, please consider volunteering a little snippet of your time to help this wonderful team pull off these fun events!

Tomorrow is our Fun Run ~ an email was sent out earlier today with times and specific parking locations for visitors. We are opening both our regular visitor lot as well as the bus loop to accommodate a very high number of visitors. Please encourage all to read the information sent out carefully so we can combat parking challenges.

Saturday is our Boo Bash! This is such a fun one! Hope to see you all there!

Hurricane days- as you have seen in communication from the district, first quarter was extended to accommodate the missed days. We still have not heard if, and when we will make up these last here days missed. We should hear soon and will communicate as soon as we do. Let's hope this is the last of hurricane days for this year~!

Today you may have received some information from Ms. Napier about School Improvement plans.

I will be happy to share our school's specific goals at our next meeting. These areas of focus usually focus on academic as well as positive culture goals. It will be best to discuss these when I am there in person~

Good news to share! Our playground project is complete!!!! Students are out there playing and enjoying the new area. It has also been wonderful to see our students who need wheelchair access use the new swing designed just for them! This is a first for Durbin Creek ! We will soon add some fencing around the perimeter of this playground.

I can't believe first quarter has already passed ! I am excited to our students engaged and am seeing so much progress already. Now that they are familiar with rituals and routines , they will just soar!

Once again, my apologies for not being with you! I will see next month! As always, please send me any questions you have!

Questions/Comments:

None.

Next SAC Meeting Date:

Adjournment: Motion: Lindsey Mentzer Second: Alexandra Goetz End: 5:12 PM

Meeting Attendees:

Members:

In person: Wendy Napier, Dara Giddings Tracy Heyner (1), Christie LaFleur (K), Alexandra Goetz and Lindsey Mentzer (5)

Virtual: Carol Hardison, Diane Tucker, James Chen, Jenelle Dunathen, Elizabeth Teelon, Jill Tor (Pre K), Jeannie Kepner (2)