



Ellijay Elementary School
School Governance Team Meeting
Tuesday, November 29, 2022
4:00 pm
EES Auditorium



Call to Order and Welcome
Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of Agenda and October Minutes

Members Present:

Cody Bearden, Parent Representative & SGT Co-Chair	<i>Cody Bearden</i>
Melinda Fonteboa, Principal & SGT Co-Chair	<i>Melinda B. Fonteboa</i>
Staci McClure, Faculty Representative & SGT Secretary	<i>Staci McClure</i>
Beth Mooney, Faculty Representative	
Nikole Woody, Parent Representative	<i>Nikole Woody (via Google Meets)</i>
	<i>Ashley Stover</i>

- I. Academic Achievement
 - A. Math Adoption Committee
 - B. MAP Assessment Winter Administration
- II. Parent and Community Engagement
 - A. Fine Arts Family Curriculum Night ~ December 1, 2022
 - B. Holiday Events for Parents and Families
 - C. Class Parties & Chorus Events
- III. High Performing Culture and Workforce
 - A. Charter System Foundation Training: [School Governance Teams Roles & Responsibilities](#)
- IV. Operational Effectiveness
 - A. Safety ~ Bus Safety
 - B. Buses to Boys & Girls Club
- V. Fiscal Accountability
 - A. Charter Funds
 - B. Innovative Instructional Technology Competition
 - C. Donut Fundraiser Results
- VI. Questions/Concerns

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The meeting was called to order just after 4pm with Dr. Fonteboa, Mr. Bearden, and Mrs. McClure attending in person while Mrs. Woody attended via Google Meet. Mrs. Mooney was unable to attend due to caring for a sick child. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. Mr. Bearden made a motion to approve the agenda, Mrs. McClure seconded the motion and all others agreed. Mr. Bearden made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, Mrs. McClure seconded the motion and all were in favor.

I. Academic Achievement

A. Math Adoption Committee -

Dr. Fonteboa shared that the GADOE recently updated and adopted Math Standards will take effect in Fall of 2023. Because of this, our county is looking to adopt a new primary curriculum resource. A committee has been formed to look at three or four potential resources and provide feedback. Mrs. Woody and Mr. Bearden are both serving on this committee. There are no dramatic changes in content, but more of an approach change that will utilize more real life/higher order thinking.

B. MAP Assessment Winter Administration

After a reminder that this is taking place Wednesday & Thursday, Dr. Fonteboa requested feedback concerning whether or not parents want to have advance information about these tests, sharing that EES does not want to add stress to parents or students unnecessarily. Both Mr. Bearden and Mrs. Woody contributed that parents do appreciate having this schedule in advance to help students prepare and adjust schedules as necessary to ensure students are ready.

II. Parent and Community Engagement

A. Fine Arts Family Curriculum Night ~ December 1, 2022

Information was shared about the many activities including an art activity, a chorus performance, story stations and an opportunity to touch and see various musical instruments provided by local business, Hootenannys Music. It will be drop in style 5:30 - 7:30

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B. Holiday Events for Parents and Families

Dr. Fontaboa explained that we wanted to offer events for students and parents that gave the opportunity for parents to visit student classrooms. Every grade level has an event planned that is tailored to student age. The number of adults attending per student is not being limited, and times will be staggered to help with crowd control. Events will all take place on either December 19th or 20th and information will be sent home with students. Parents/guardians will need to check in at the front of the building and staff members will be stationed there to assist. Limiting holiday events and activities to these two days will help protect instructional time as well as make things simpler for parents. Mrs. McClure shared information about participation in the Spelling Bee this year and shared that it involves all students in grades four through eight. The School Level Bee with two top spellers from each class in grades four and five will take place on December 19th as well.

C. Class Parties & Chorus Events

Mr. Bearden commented that he wanted to verify that events will be staggered this year to avoid crowding and confusion and this was confirmed. The upcoming second and third grade musical on Monday December 5th was also announced by Dr. Fontaboa.

III. High Performing Culture and Workforce

A. Charter System Foundation Training: [School Governance Teams Roles & Responsibilities](#)

Members briefly discussed that the video reminds us that the role of the SGT is similar to that of the BOE - we focus on governance & long term leadership, not day to day management.

IV. Operational Effectiveness

A. Safety ~ Bus Safety

A new bus tracker technology is coming in the Spring of 2023 that will allow parents to use an app to track their child and the bus to determine where their child or bus is currently located.

B. Buses to Boys & Girls Club

Mr. Bearden inquired about rumors of school buses not taking students to the Boys & Girls Club. Dr. Fontaboa shared that system policy states that students cannot be dropped off at businesses, only residences. However, Mr. Dana Berry, Assistant Superintendent, has worked out an agreement with them to continue to transport

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children there on buses at the expense of the school system. This, of course, could change in the future.

C. Standing Substitute Procedures?

Mrs. Woody posed a question that fit in the Operational Effectiveness category. She wanted to know if there is a standard process in place to share information about potential issues with individual students or groups of students with substitute teachers. She expressed concern, as a person who has subbed, that subs cannot properly take care of the class if they don't know about behavioral issues ahead of time. Dr. Fonteboa shared that although there are some things we cannot share, such as full details of IEPs, there are ways information that would help could be shared. There is currently no standing protocol. Mrs. Stover, who arrived from another meeting, shared several ways that teachers could ensure this information is passed on in an appropriate and helpful manner. Mrs. Stover and Dr. Fonteboa noted that they appreciated the suggestion and the creation of such a procedure will be discussed at the upcoming faculty meeting.

V. Fiscal Accountability

A. Charter Funds

Dr. Fonteboa explained that certain funds are allocated to schools in Gilmer County because of our charter status. Typically these funds are used for innovation, curriculum and instructional support. A spreadsheet budget was shared and the various items funded by charter funds were described. These include MAP, Screencastify, Origo, Progress Learning and Nearpod.

B. Innovative Instructional Technology Competition

This new offer to encourage innovation was explained by Dr. Fonteboa. Teachers will be encouraged to write proposals and present them that utilize technology in an innovative instructional way. The winner for each school will be awarded \$5,000 to pilot the program they proposed.

Mrs. McClure made a motion to approve the budget of charter funds, Mr. Bearden seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

C. Donut Fundraiser Results

Dr. Fonteboa reported that Krispy Kreme delivered 1,010 boxes of donuts. The gross money collected was \$9,429 while the net profit for the school was \$3,305.

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As an interesting comparison, Mrs. McClure reported the Book Fair gross income, which included sales tax, was around \$8,300 which resulted in a cash profit of \$800 and a Scholastic Dollar profit of around \$2,000. Scholastic dollars are generally worth about 50 cents so, truly, about an \$1,800 profit for something that takes a lot more time and effort. So, although the book fair gets books into the hands of children, as a fundraiser, the donut sale is a much better way to earn funds.

The date of the next meeting, Tuesday, January 31, 2023, was shared and members were encouraged to let Mr. Bearden or Dr. Fonteboa know of any item that might need to be discussed.

Mrs. McClure made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Bearded seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 5pm.