



Developmental Research School
at the University of Florida

P.K. Yonge School Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2023

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Secondary Building, Room 132, 1st Floor, Green Wing

Member Attendance: Brian Marchman, Carrie Geiger, Nigel Newbutt, Lori Dassa, Bryce Stevenson, Lisa Fabulich, Sarah Bell, Regina Wims, Wantanisha Morant, Meryl Klein, Hakeem Hasan, Rob Cox, Janine Williams, Alisha Williams, Jon Mudorf, Jen Greer

Member Absences: Marisa Stukey, Tish Andrews-Hawkins, Stella Bachman

Guests: Emily Eubanks, Matt Nerau, Sanil Nadar

Meeting called to order at 5:31pm by Wantanisha Morant

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

- Motion to approve minutes by Jon Mundorf
- Seconded by Lori Dassa
- Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY AGENDA

- Changes: date, principal update moved up in the schedule, order of Ad Hoc committee presentations rearranged
 - Motion to approve agenda by Carrie Geiger
 - Seconded by Regina Wims
 - Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE – Carrie Geiger

- Pilot Year for BEST Standards and FAST Tests
 - 2 of 3 assessments completed (Progress Monitoring #1 and #2)
 - Trends are positive in both math and reading (scores for grades 3 – 8 in math and grades 3-9 in reading were displayed)
 - Extra help is available for students who may need more assistance (see “pkyongebluewave” on Instagram for information/schedule)

FACULTY TRAVEL REQUESTS

- National Science Teachers Association – Sanil Nadar - \$855.96 Requested = \$855.96 Approved – present for request
 - Motion to approve by Carrie Geiger
 - Seconded by Rob Cox
 - Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0



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- American Educational Research Association – John Bell – \$2,134 Requested = \$1,000 (maximum allowable amount) Approved – written proposal read by Brian Marchman
 - Motion to approve by Carrie Geiger
 - Seconded by Jon Mundorf
 - Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0
- Florida Music Educators Association – Michael Roberts - \$500 Requested = \$500 (maximum allowable amount) Approved – description of research by Drs. Marchman and Geiger
 - Motion to approve by Carrie Geiger
 - Seconded by Jon Mundorf
 - Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0

STUDENT GOVERNMENT UPDATE – Not present, no update available

FACULTY POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES – Jon Mundorf

- Sub committees are currently focused on data, teacher inquiry, attendance, and the calendar committee (working on finalizing the calendar currently)
 - August 10th will be the next school year start date
- Standing committee from UF-College of Education on Faculty Leave/Sabbatical/Professional Development asked if PK would like representation on that committee – we have accepted
- New subcommittee to be formed in the near future – developing/facilitating a leadership feedback survey – allows feedback for strengths and areas of improvement – focusing on positive productive feedback for PKY leadership

SUB COMMITTEE – Faculty Travel Increase Proposal – Jon Mundorf (other committee members: Lori, Lisa, and Meryl)

- Goal to review travel amounts for in-state and out-of-state conference travel
- Survey faculty who had received travel funds for Fall of 2022: revealing that most faculty were paying significant amount of monies out of pocket.
- First suggestion was, beginning next school year (SY 2023-2024), to increase to \$1000 for within 6 hour driving distance, and \$2000 for those requiring air travel.
- However, requesting additional time to meet with stakeholders.
- Circle back in March 2023 meeting (next meeting).

SUB COMMITTEE – Student Activity Fee Proposal – Brian Marchman

- Fees have not increased since 2005
- Need for increased funds to continue to provide exceptional curriculum/programming for students
- PKY fees less than other lab schools
- Options presented would not take effect until next school year (2023-2024 for the 2024-2025 school year)



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- 1: increase to \$500 year
- 2: \$400, \$500, \$600 increasing consecutively each year and steady for years 3-5 at \$600
- Reduced fees for both options: \$150 (not increasing for the level 1 income category – to avoid penalizing those families with students who are already in attendance)
- Revenue between the two options is relatively the same.
- Recommend that the vote not take place until the next meet so the community can be notified of the vote.

SUB COMMITTEE – Revision of SAC Committee By-Laws – Sarah Bell (other committee members: Hakeem and Wantanisha)

- Note: SAC by-laws should be reviewed every 3 years (have not been revised since 2014)
- Note: Parliamentary Procedures not required
- Note: Items up for vote require at least 3 days advance notice to the SAC and general public with public comment opportunities to vote
- Recommended Changes:
 - FPC chair will change annually
 - Election of officers will be on staggered terms when possible – if vacancy they may be elected in the same term
 - Secretary/Treasurer duties accomplished with assistance from office staff
 - Agenda typically set by director, chair, and office staff
- Sarah will finalize the edits and send to Emily for next meeting vote

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE – Brian Marchman

- **Student Success:** moving forward with data collection in PM 3, students are doing well, and we are using this formative data to driving instruction. Teacher struggles/burdens are real, and we have felt the teacher shortage; we have hired 30 new teachers in nine months. We also have a long way to go to make the faculty look like the student body. #1 challenge is retaining high quality teachers (paying them more, and rewarding them for their efforts); 4% raise for teachers this year (more than the 3% @ UF).
- **Pathways Implementation Plan:** The pathways idea was based on the assumptions that all kids could learn at high levels – that we could ask students to do high level rigorous coursework with high expectations to learn, to provide a high-quality life here at PK and beyond, and was not intended to force students into a career or particular job path early in their education. The leadership team has received feedback that pathways is largely a good thing to have with its high-level goals and that it would help students who have interests in engineering, health, and other focuses – this part of pathways has been embraced. However, leadership was surprised with the number of families who thought PK was no longer the place of their students because of the focus on advanced placement (AP) coursework – the



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assumption was that if students could do it, parents would support it, but in talking to parents, some consider AP coursework an option for only the elitist-higher-income college-going-kids and not for everyone. While the administration is feeling a push from higher levels to provide greater access to AP courses for students of color, our mistake was not outlining the support structures that would be put in place to help all students succeed at the time of the presentation of the pathways options. The pathways idea was not about changing the student population; it was intended to serve all of the current students at PK and provide them with high-quality experiences. Another assumption we had was that everyone was with AP courses and the data surrounding it and how vital exposure to AP coursework could be for the student body. This too will need to be further presented to all stakeholders.

- Faculty and Staff Recognition:
 - Awarded: Teachers of the Year – Natalie Andrews (elementary teacher of the year, 2/3 community teacher) and Leigh Anne Brewster (secondary teacher of the year, STEAM education specialist - robotics/engineering)
 - 3 UF Superior Accomplishment Awards: Sandra Villanueva, Amy Neal, and Dr. Brown (division winner also) for Diversity and Equity in Teaching
 - Dennison Award Winners: to be announced soon
- Gator Giving Day we raised nearly \$7,000 to help support PK!

ADJOURN

- Motion to adjourn the February 2023 meeting by Jenn Greer
- Seconded by Regina Wims
- Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm by Wantanisha Morant