

Dunwoody High School
Principal Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting - Minutes
December 18, 2018

Attendance: Ms. Cole, Kevin Dankosky, Bob Fiscella, Ebony Greene, Dave Levy, Lisa May, Mary K. Morris, Randi Siegel

Guests: Stan Jester (DeKalb School Board District 1 representative), Elizabeth Julian (PTSO president), Ashley Luke, Cathy Murphy (Summit Counseling), Heather Page (Summit Counseling)

Dave opens meeting at 4:57 PM

Minutes approved from October 18, 2018 meeting.

Teachers' Report

Ms. Greene

- The target start date for announcing the weekly menus is 2nd semester. Mass Comm will help make promotional videos for the menus.

Coach Dankosky

- Once a semester, there will be a roundtable with staff to promote open forum discussion. The purpose is to get staff input and work on solutions.

Principal's Report – Ms. Cole

Attendance/Enrollment:

- Attendance currently stands at 2090. Expectation is that enrollment will rise in January.

School Safety and Security:

Lockdowns

- There have been a number of lockdowns recently due to potential security threats.
- Ms. Cole always communicates the beginning and ending of a lockdown, but can't provide specific details about the lockdowns for security reasons. Parents have been complementary of communication so far.
- There are three levels of lockdown:
 - o Level 1 is least restrictive, many of these practices are used in everyday security.
 - o Level 2

- Level 3 is most restrictive and is enacted when there is an imminent threat in the building.
- DHS will go on lockdown if Vanderlyn is on lockdown due to proximity
- The lockdowns are not just isolated to this cluster. They are happening in other schools as well.
- Some parents are coming to get kids during lockdowns. Kids can be checked out only during a Level 1 lockdown. Checkouts are not allowed during Level 2 or Level 3 lockdowns.
- During the lockdowns, some kids are clueless while others are scared.
- Students in modulars during lockdowns remain in the locked modulars.

Security Resources

- Parents are frequently bringing food to students during lunch, which ties up the security resources. In addition, security doesn't know what's in the lunches.
- There are 3 campus officers, and DeKalb County is increasing the number of SROs.
- Question posed to the group: Is the picnic area a security concern for parents?
 - General answer was yes
 - Quick discussion about possible options. One option posed was a fence around the school.

Schedules/Instructional Needs

- There are no scheduling issues. Mr. Jameson is finalizing the 2nd semester schedule.

Teachers and Staff Issues/Needs

- There will be 1 new teacher 2nd semester and possibly a second.

College and Career Ready Performance Index 2018 (CCRPI)

- DHS 2018 CCRPI score is 81.5%.
- The calculation is different than prior years'.
- The score reflects issues with Closing the Achievement Gap.
- The school demographics are changing to a more diverse population, and different strategies are needed to address these changes.
 - More lesson planning and coaching is planned.
 - Differentiation, pullouts, etc. are needed vs. the old methodology of pushing the same information to everyone.
- EOC classes feed the CCRPI scores. EOC courses, especially math, are targeted for examination. Math class size is currently around 28 students. The target class size is 20 students.
- There have been some sessions after school or on the weekend to help with EOC prep, but transportation remains a main issue. The majority of the population that needs the extra help needs to ride the bus. Ideally a sweep bus could be provided after school or on Saturday to get students to these sessions.

- CCRPI is not tied to funding currently.
- Other related discussion:
 - o English Language Learners (ELL) is a big focus for the county, but DHS focuses on all learners.
 - o Ms. Cole is working on vertical alignment, especially with PCMS to ensure solid transition and success in 9th grade.

Student Parking

- Parking – some kids are parking in the red lane and are getting ticketed.
- City of Dunwoody has increased patrolling around DHS and Vanderlyn for speeding.

New Modular Units

- The leaky roofs are fixed (along with other things) to standard.
- Work still needs to be done to install French drains.
- Fire Marshall recommendation is to put a sidewalk in place of the rocks on the side of the modular for traction. A formal citation has not yet been received.
- Mold in modular has been cleaned. During the cleaning, more dust was found than mold.

Other Current Issues

Summit Counseling

- Summit Counseling will be onsite at DHS beginning 2nd semester.
- Summit has been community based for 28 years. In partnership with Dunwoody United Methodist Church, an office was opened in Dunwoody on Nandina Lane.
- Summit started school based programs in Fulton County, mainly focusing on proactive and preventative suicide support.
- DHS is the DeKalb pilot.
- Dr. Heather Page was hired specifically for this program. She has worked in elementary, middle, and high schools. Dr. Page will be onsite 2 days a week (T/Th) and will have outside hours (M/F) at the Dunwoody office location.
- Counseling will operate on the bell schedule. Kids will not be taken out of core classes. There will also be appointments before and after school.
- Sessions will be 45 minutes. Students will receive a general pass from counselors to leave class for the sessions.
- Appointments must be scheduled, no drop-ins allowed. School counselors will refer students to the program. Parents will need to sign off for participation, unless the student is 18 or older.
- The program will initially see 16 kids. They will also see potential risk students and do assessments as needed. Summit will do a 30 minute initial call with the parents and the student to set expectations.
- There will also be a small group program (12 kids), who will meet multiple times over the semester.

- Financial assistance will be available. There is public and private funding to assist with the costs of these services. If students qualify for free or reduced lunch, they qualify for aid.

New Business/Unfinished Business

Construction Advisory Committee (CAC)

- Discussion around the budget: there is not as much money available as initially discussed.
- In order to proceed, the amount of money available will need to be known so that next steps can be planned.
- Jan 22nd is next CAC meeting.

Wildcat Fund Update

- The installation of the lights has started.

Care Closet

- There is grant money (\$5000) available through Emory. Must be sponsored by an Emory employee.
- The committed discussed applying for the grant to use for a Care Closet.
- Lakeside has applied and received the grant through their foundation, but if DHS applies for the grant, the status of group that applies will govern how the money can be used.
- Before applying for the grant, the need for this resource must be understood. Ms. Cole is going to talk to counselors about what is needed and see what resources are currently available.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 PM.