



Hartwell Elementary School
147 S. College Avenue
Hartwell, GA 30643
Telephone: 706.376.4425
Fax: 706.856.7317
Dr. Veronica Johnson, Principal
Courtney Hart, Assistant Principal
Cindy Allen, Counselor

**April 22, 2019
School Governance Team Meeting
5:30 PM Dr. Johnson's Office**

Members Present: Dr. Veronica Johnson, Beth Allen, Amy Adams, Robin Pittman, Ed Hoy, Billie Lewis

Members Absent: Courtney Hart, Lee Adams, Jannita Glenn, Lee Robertson

I. Call to order- Beth Allen

II. Opening Prayer- Beth Allen

III. Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

- a. Meeting minutes for both February and March were reviewed for approval at this meeting since Rene' Starrett was absent at the March Meeting. Billie Lewis made the motion to approve the February 25, 2019 meeting minutes and the March 18, 2019 meeting minutes. Ed Hoy seconded the motion to approve. All members were in favor of approval of the minutes.

IV. Principal's Report:

- a. Charter system was a review and we received a thank you note from Mr. Buddenbaum.
- b. Meet and Greet for the new Principal was set for May 7th from 11:00 am-12:30pm in the school media center.
- c. Progress Reports will go home April 25th which is this Thursday.
- d. Classroom budget materials: If the SGT has any items that it would like to suggest being purchased for the next school year please get those to Dr. Johnson. Mrs. Pittman discussed literary pieces that she was advised to place on the title I funds budgets versus items that were

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placed on classroom budgets. Dr. Johnson said that her and Mrs. Hart were going to be evaluating the technology websites that the school currently has purchased before renewing subscriptions for next year.

- e. Kindergarten through 2nd grade is doing MAP assessments this week and next week. It was discussed that we were supposed to have new technology purchased for the next school year. Currently other schools have technology with touch screens for testing. Dr. Johnson said that this new technology was supposed to be purchased before the next school year.
- f. All teaching positions at HES at this time are filled, but teacher placements are not final yet for the 2019-2020 school year.
- g. Teacher Appreciation Week May 6-10: The PTO will serve lunch for the staff on May 7th. The school will be providing a brunch for the teachers on May 8th. Thank you to Lee Adams, Billie Lewis, PTO, and any other sponsors.
- h. Pre-K registration today and Friday at the Ag Center. K registration is tomorrow.
- i. SGT meeting minutes and school board meeting minutes are posted on the Eboard. Dr. Johnson made a note that we did not have February and March posted at this time, and Rene' Starrett stated that she does not post these until these are approved. Today we were approving these minutes, so they will be posted after today's meeting.
- j. Our current enrollment is 593, which includes our SKIP program, and other students who are special needs being served out side of the school building. Dr. Johnson stated that this number was higher than in the past.
- k. Dr. Johnson discussed that two students were taken to tribunal:
 - i. One student was taken due to a threat that was made to another student.
 - ii. One student was taken due to the vandalism that was made to a school bus. The older brother was with this student and was arrested.

V. New Business:

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a. HES Personnel Updates:

- i. Dr. Johnson discussed these in the principal's report. She stated that Olivia "Blair" Lee will be teaching first grade. Kendall Rucker will be transferring from the middle school.

b. County PBIS Meeting Report- Rene' Starrett

- i. Rene' stated that Jan Pierce from RESA came and spoke to the team about what PBIS is, where we started, what our goals were, and what should be our new goals should be.
- ii. Rene' discussed what PBIS is for, and she went over the SWIS system which is the data system that problem behaviors are entered into and tracked. She discussed the final summary for all of the reports that had been entered into the system through April 15th. The summary stated that the month with the highest number of incidences was December. Our average referral per day of the week had Thursday as having the highest number of incidences. We discussed that our highest referrals occurred at 1:00pm with the classroom being the highest for location they occurred in. The most frequently occurring problem behavior was physical aggression. The most referrals for problem behaviors came out of the 3rd grade. It was discussed that this data feeds into the Georgia Department of Education to determine a school's star rating. For HES, our star rating has increased from last year as a 3/5 to this year we have a 4/5. It was discussed in the meeting that for a child to unlearn a problem behavior and replace it with a new behavior, that it takes on average 28 times for the new behavior to be repeated before it will change. This shows that the strides that we are making at HES are improving. Therefore, with it taking this amount of times to unlearn a problem behavior, we can see why this will be more of a gradual process versus a quick process. The positive is that the star rating is going up.
- iii. It was reported that the problem behavior for all of the elementary schools was physical aggression. The majority of the discipline

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referrals were classroom related. Also, they stated that there were a lot of bus related referrals.

- iv. Rene' stated that next the Vision for PBIS for our district was discussed, and that consistency in discipline was one of our items that was listed. Rene' stated that the counselor at North Hart had created a cheat sheet/ rubric for PBIS, and that the counselor had stated that it had really helped them with consistency.
- v. Dr. Johnson questioned what all behaviors were falling under physical aggression because she felt as though inappropriate language was our main problem behavior. Rene' stated that she thought physical aggression was not just fighting with physical contact, but also included tripping, pushing, pulling someone's hair, etc. She did state that she would follow-up on this at the next meeting.
- vi. Rene' briefly went over the remainder of district goals that had originally been set as well as the barriers to these goals that we as a district face.
- vii. Billie Lewis had asked what was meant by inclusion of bus drivers. Rene' stated that this was a future goal for activities related to PBIS was to get certain individuals more involved with the program. Rene' stated that she had mentioned at the district meeting how HES had implemented a competition with children riding the bus and the bus drivers that involved magnets for bus of the week with the best behavior. Rene' stated that this had really made a difference at HES for bus referrals. Dr. Johnson said that we really need to start the bus competition back because we had stopped it this year because behaviors had improved. However, it would be a good idea to start back to make sure this is continued.
- viii. Rene' stated that the group would be meeting again to establish future goals for the district. Rene' said she would be reporting back after each meeting to the school governance team.

C. New administration Meet and Great Idea: Beth Allen

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- i. Dr. Johnson covered this in the principal's report. It will be May 7th from 11:00am- 12:30pm. Flyers will be sent home with students. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.
- d. **STEAM/Career Day: Robin Pittman/ Amy Adams**
 - i. This is set for Tuesday, May 21st.
 - ii. The younger grades there will be some water safety, public safety, fine arts showcase, and will participate in STEAM activities.
 - iii. The older grades will also have careers involved with STEAM. TSA may be able to come to show activities that kids can participate in when involved with TSA. Performing Arts will be put together by Ms. Kitchens, Ms. Palmer, and Coach Morrison. Ed added that Hart EMC has participated in the career fairs in the past, so he would be willing to have someone to give a demonstration.

VI. Old Business:

- a. **Facility Updates:** Dr. Johnson stated that Mr. Floyd said he has a plan for HES updates. The teachers stated how nice it is to have the lighting issues to have been corrected. They feel more secure and safe when entering the school early in the morning or when staying late in the evening.
- b. **Student Achievement/ Testing Updates:** April 29-May 14 will be Milestone testing and the make-up testing will be at the end of the week.
- c. **Other:** There was discussion about kids not being able to participate in field day if your lunch account was not paid in full.

Adjournment: Amy Adams made the motion to adjourn. Beth Allen seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

Next meeting will be May 20, 2019 at 5:30pm

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