

FFHSCCA 2019-2020 SCHOOL GOVERNANCE TEAM MEETING

Date: Nov. 1, 2019

Time: 9:45 A.M.

Meeting Called to Order by: Principal & Chairman Mr. James Sirmans

In attendance: Jalee Wilson Laquisha Paschal Cheryl Luckie
David Carter Jarrett Yarbrough Ryan Alfau

Mr. Sirmans opened the meeting with a welcome and prayer and introduction of new team member Ryan Alfau, who replaced Chris Rodriguez who recently resigned. The minutes of the August 29 meeting were read and approved.

POINT OF DISCUSSION:

* Recent CCRPI scores for Fitzgerald High School as well as other schools in our RESA district. FHS scores were up several points, but Mr. Sirmans expressed that we need to continue to work to increase this even more. The CCRPI report showed that the graduation rate was one of the highest in the district at 88.5% (up 20 points). Increasing Milestones scores will continue to be a high priority. Mr. Sirmans stated that he recently met with all seniors who are not doing well academically, and he has also contacted their parents.

*District/POI Observations & Professional Learning Various strategies for improving student success are continuing to be put in place, including class observations to use to assist teachers and give feedback and suggestions. Mr. Sirmans stated that it is his goal to get the best out of teachers and students and help everyone to work together to raise scores. He stated that it is difficult for us to compete with other systems for teachers, and that we need to continue to look for ways to encourage teachers to come to our community. We also need to continue to work to find ways to engage all students and to encourage them to have good school attendance. Mr. Sirmans also stated that the state needs to continue to look at the testing that is being done and find ways to improve in this area.

*School Climate Mr. Sirmans stated he is continuing to try and build a culture where students like to come to school. He stated that at this time attendance is basically good...out of 822 students only about 20-25 are attendance problems.

*A/B Scheduling After Mr. Sirmans explained the schedule, a lengthy discussion was held concerning the new A/B schedule that was implemented for the

2019-2020 school year. Team members discussed both strengths and weaknesses of the schedule. Mr. Sirmans was very open and concerned and stated that he realizes there are some areas of the schedule that need to be looked at and possibly tweaked or changed for the next school year.

*Governance Team Funds The GT has been given \$30,000 to spend at its discretion for innovative initiatives that can help students and/or teachers succeed. Team members were asked to come up with a list of initiatives after talking with teachers, students, and parents. These initiatives will be discussed at a later meeting.

*Other Topics of Discussion Team member Cheryl Luckie discussed her mission to get Visual Arts reintroduced into the FHSCCA, hopefully as part of the Fine Arts Pathway. She gave the team a list of some of the benefits of having a visual arts program. Mrs. Luckie asked for the support of the GT if and when funding could be available. Mr. Sirmans made the motion that the team give their support to this endeavor, the motion was seconded by Jalee Wilson, and the vote was unanimously affirmative. Team member David Carter also requested that the team think about meeting more than every other month. He also stated he felt the team should have a voice in the construction of the new school. In response, Mr. Sirmans said he would keep team members abreast of any developments. Mr. Carter also requested that a survey be given to teachers asking for their input about any innovations they think would be helpful to them and to their students.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:20.

Submitted by
Cheryl Luckie, Secretary