

Gainesville High School Advisory Council Minutes  
March 1, 2021

*Virtual Meeting via Google Meets*

Members in Attendance

David Shelnut  
Katie Rohan  
Florida Bridgewater-Alford  
Anastasia Albanese-O'Neill  
Keith Watts  
Leslie Suskin  
Erin Smith  
Janet Gil  
Annie Hermansen-Baez  
Julio Sarmiento  
Angelo Rollins  
Steve Bauer  
April Tisher

Call to Order

Keith Watts called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Approval of Minutes

After reviewing the minutes from the February meeting, Leslie Suskin made a motion to approve the minutes, Angelo Rollins seconded and the minutes were approved.

Financial Report

Mr. Shelnut went over the Financial Report. The balance in ADS as of 02/26/2021 is \$204,835.13; balance in LOT is \$51,058.28; for a total of \$255,893.41.

Principal's Comments

Mr. Shelnut thanked the members for serving on SAC and for sacrificing family time to do so.

PTSA hosted Faculty/Staff grab-n-go breakfast on 2/12. They also were able to get donations from Pizza Hut, Taco Bell and Sonic for coupons that were given out to AB Honor Roll students –

Brick and Mortar students picked up their certificates during lunches and Digital Academy students were able to drive thru after school from 3-6 to get theirs. Very appreciative of our PTSA for all they do for our students and staff.

Monthly Fire and Alice drills conducted.

Black History Month culminated with a virtual African History Fair put on by Nicole Harris and her students. This included a ceremony to honor the three students who first integrated GHS, along with the unveiling of their individual portraits by artist Jenna Horner. Ms. Horner will also be painting a mural in the near future. Dr. Lavon Bracy Wright, Sandra Cummings and a family member of the late Joel Buchanan were able to join the ceremony via zoom and to address the students. Various classes were able to view exhibits while social distancing and other activities included dancing and a band playing in the auditorium. Mr. Shelnutt commended Ms. Harris and her students along with the entire school. The event was shared on social media.

The ACT will be administered to all juniors on 3/2 for Brick and Mortar students, and to Digital Academy students on 3/16.

Spring Break will be from 3/22 through 3/26.

#### Financial Requests

There were no requests submitted for review.

#### SAC Concerns and Comments

Keith Watts commended Administration on how stellar they are in keeping everyone in the loop with regular Covid updates.

Superintendent Dr. Carlee Simon has appointed our AP for Administration, Mrs. Libby Hartwell to Principal of Archer Elementary. He wanted to thank Mrs. Hartwell, she has been a great asset to GHS for almost 4 years. She has assisted greatly in following Covid guidelines and he wishes her nothing but the best. He is hoping to announce who our new AP will be within the next few days. Julio Sarmiento asked if the Superintendent or the Principal fills the position. Mr. Shelnutt explained that for Principal positions the Superintendent recommends and the School Board votes. (Mrs. Hartwell will officially be voted on at the next meeting on 3/2/21). Assistant Principal applicants are interviewed and chosen by school administrators.

As banquets are currently not allowed due to COVID, many teams and groups are opting to have drive-thru banquets to honor their members and give out awards, etc. April Tisher, Football

Booster President announced that they held their drive-thru banquet on Saturday, giving out certificates, letters, bars and they were able to award 2 players the 'Lamp of Knowledge' for their GPA. Off-season conditioning starts April 26<sup>th</sup> and they are hoping to be able to play a spring game.

Universal Studios announce they will not host Grad Bash again this year due to Covid. Principals are waiting on guidance on Prom. Dr. Simon along with School Board members and SMAC will ultimately make that decision.

Florida Bridgewater-Alford asked if there was any update on whether graduation will be an in-person event. The 'hope' is that commencement will be in the O'Connell Center. There is no information to-date on what restrictions (if any) there will be, including limitations regarding the number of tickets. All principals will be meeting next Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Bridgewater-Alford also offered share information regarding the logistics of commencement as she serves on the UF commencement committee. Our seniors have worked so hard to get to this moment and she wants to make sure their day is very special.

District has not opened up the Magnet Program applications.

Mr. Shelnutt gave a heads-up to members that in April, we will seek nominations for any open parent and teacher SAC positions (2 year) and voting will take place in May. Parents vote for parent positions via email, and teachers vote for teacher positions.

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) for next school year will be shared prior to summer.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Google Meets. Mr. Shelnutt will send out the invite after 5:00 pm.

With no other comments or concerns, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 pm.