

Buchholz High School
School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2021

Attendance: K. Purvis, M. DiBernardo, J. Wilkinson, A. Krecic, R. McNickle, J. Fisher (Zoom), D. Wei, J. Smith, K. Marinoff, O. Fayiga, M. Brothers, C. Li (Zoom), G. Smith (Zoom), M. Jones, A. Walker, and M. Pratto

Call to Order: 3:32PM by J. Wilkinson

Adoption of Today's Agenda: M. DiBernardo motion to adopt the agenda without changes; seconded by R. McNickle. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Previous Minutes: D. Wei motion to approve the minutes from September 9, 2021, with no corrections; seconded by R. McNickle. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- A. Cap & Gown Pictures – SWI Photography will be on campus to photograph Seniors on December 9; studio dates for make-ups every Monday in February 2022.
- B. K. Purvis noted that the Girls Cross Country won their State Championship and that the Football advanced to the State semi-final round for the first time in 25 years.

Financial Report: K. Marinoff reported fund balances through 11/29/21.

- AP fund (ADS): \$154,904.41; new funds may be received early 2022
- Lottery: \$18,603.75; no new funds received for several years
- School Recognition Program (SRP): \$47,644.04
- Teacher Lead: \$0

New Business:

- A. Tutoring Fund Increase Request (SRP) – Request of \$5,000 from SRP funds to serve our students and potentially add more tutors based on demand.
 - Mr. Purvis reported that the demand is great for afterschool tutoring. In September, \$5,000/semester (totaling 357 hours) was approved, of which 120 hours have been utilized. Based on current and anticipated demand, additional funds are being requested to support the program through the end of the current school year.
 - O. Fayiga motioned to approve the request of \$5,000 from SRP funds to support the Tutoring Fund; seconded by D. Wei. Motion carried unanimously.
 - A. Krecic asked if data could be collected to assess the effectiveness of the afterschool tutoring program. Mr. Purvis noted that student participation is tracked, so those questions can be addressed. O. Fayiga added that he has seen improvement by students who participate, but many students who could benefit are unable to participate, often due to transportation or family obligations after school.

- Mr. Purvis added that the High-Dosage Tutor position remains open as they seek a qualified candidate. Two candidates have declined the position.
- B. Additional Security (Barkley) (ADS) – Request not to exceed \$7,500 from ADS funds to add a part-time (4 hours/day) position to assist with supervision of student parking lots, grounds, and after school at the church parking lot.
 - Mr. Purvis added that there is a particular need for assistance during lunch and after school, roughly 11:15AM-3:15PM. Further, there is a new contract with the church for parking and they are seeking assistance with related traffic control issues on their property.
 - A. Krecic motioned to approve up to \$7,500 from ADS funds to support this position; seconded by O. Fayiga. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Additional student desks (ADS) – Request not to exceed \$8,000 from ADS fund to purchase seventy (70) student desks.
 - Mr. Purvis explained that additional student desks are needed to furnish the Learning Cottages on campus. One portable currently has no desks, and PE classes have been moved from a portable to the gym. Furnishing these spaces with student desks will provide additional instructional space and add flexibility in replacing damaged desks or temporary loss of classroom space elsewhere on campus.
 - J. Fisher asked if other funds were available for this purpose if not approved by SAC. Mr. Purvis noted that funds from the District could be used, but given the amount, this might limit the ongoing purchase of other essential items, such as bathroom supplies.
 - D. Wei motioned to approve the request from ADS funds not to exceed \$8,000 to purchase seventy (70) student desks; seconded by R. McNickle. Motion carried unanimously.

Administration Reports:

- A. ½ Cent Funds (50K) Update – Mr. Purvis explained that after the Half-Cent for Schools sales tax was passed in 2019, the District allocated \$50,000 to each school to use as they choose, with SAC approval. Buchholz SAC previously approved the following allocation of these funds.
 - Track rubberization - \$25,000 (in progress; projected completion mid-January 2022)
 - Tennis court renovation - \$19,440 (completed)
 - Gymnasium entrance enhancement - \$5,560 (pending)
 - Allocation of these funds was approved prior to the request for funds made in June 2021 for improvements to the Wrestling room; those improvements are on hold pending a new source of funds.
- B. Facilities, Safety & Security – Mr. Jones
 - Auditorium renovations & enhancements, including lighting and sound upgrades; supplies have been ordered. Work has been delayed about a month; completion date pending start of work.

- Security improvements in progress and/or under discussion with District Facilities include fencing in front of the school around the flagpole area; staff parking lot gate with controlled access; pull-down gates to restrict access from the courtyard areas on the east side of campus at night; wider door with key access for loading near staff parking lot.
- C. COVID/Mask Update – Mrs. Smith
- Masking is now optional for all on campus, no waiver required. Quarantining is also optional for asymptomatic close contacts.
 - A second nurse has been hired to assist with COVID protocols, including contact tracing.
 - Case numbers are down significantly since September.
 - Student Services – A Family Liaison (Ms. Oldfield) has been hired (ESSER funds) to assist with truancy issues, re-enrollment of former Digital Academy students and other obstacles to getting and keeping students in school.
- D. Curriculum/Testing -Dr. Pratto
- Guidance Counselors are working with students who are struggling to transition back to the expectations of in-person learning.
 - Results from the first round of progress monitoring were good and the data is being reviewed and used by Subject Teams to improve and devise and implement new instructional strategies for student success. This process has been a positive experience for teachers.
 - Fall testing helped many Juniors and Seniors achieve passing level on required assessments. Juniors will have an opportunity to take the standard SAT in March.
 - State curriculum standards for Math and ELA have changed AND state testing is shifting from cumulative assessments to progress monitoring and periodic assessments. There will likely be an implementation year/period as and before accountability measures are finalized and applied.

Open Agenda: Public Input

- D. Wei noted Buchholz High School's rising position in state and national high school rankings. Mr. Purvis credited high graduation rates and performance on state and national assessments as most significant to these measures of success.
- A. Walker announced that Advanced Placement testing will be held at Westside Baptist Church in Spring 2022.
- D. Wei asked about an issue with the chemistry labs. Mr. Purvis noted that these classrooms need new piping, and the project is currently out for bid by the District.
- D. Wei asked about the response to recent student fighting on campus. Mr. Purvis explained that safety protocols include locking down while altercations are isolated and cleared to prevent additional physical conflicts.
- D. Wei inquired about the lack of soap in the bathrooms. Mr. Purvis attributed some of this to recent vandalism of soap dispensers. New dispensers are on back order and will be installed as soon as possible. In the meantime, large containers of hand sanitizer placed in student bathrooms have also been vandalized.

- D. Wei asked about the challenges of school capacity. Mr. Purvis applauded the teachers and staff who work hard to service the needs of the growing student body and the Administration is committed to the leadership and support necessary to provide a positive learning environment for all students who come to Buchholz.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 3:30PM

Adjournment: M. Brothers motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by M. DiBernardo. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:34PM.

Submitted by:

Annette Krecic

Secretary

Approval Date _____