

Minutes for the School Council Meeting
Veterans High School Council
October 18, 2018

The Veterans High School Council met in regular session on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at 7:00 a.m., in the media center - 340 Piney Grove Road, Kathleen, GA 31047.

Council Members Present:

Steve Atkins, Amy Barbour, Angel Brown, Mark Byrd, Anissa Driggers, Neal Musmanno, and Kaci Whiddon

School Council Members Absent:

None

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Angel Brown, chairperson, called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Brown led the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag.

3. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Barbour distributed the agenda posted pursuant of the Open Meetings Act. Mark Byrd motioned to accept the agenda, and it was seconded. The vote was unanimous.

4. Approval of Minutes

A vote to approve the minutes from April 18, 2018 was taken, motioned by Mark Byrd and seconded.

5. Recognition of Visitors

None

6. Recognition of New School Council members

Dr. Amy Barbour, principal
Colonel Steve Atkins, teacher representative
Mrs. Anissa Driggers
Mr. Neal Musmanno

7. Presentation(s) to School Council

None

Minutes for the School Council Meeting
Veterans High School Council
October 18, 2018

8. Report of the Principal

- 18-19 school year start
 - Staff additions – 4 added teacher positions for 18-19
 - New API – Ashley Brock
 - Student enrollment - ~1660
- Exemption policy change = 5 absences/80+

Dr. Barbour discussed the change, explaining the change in attendance requirements with CCRPI from a student day maximum to 10% enrollment requirements, along with the impact of flu and strep seasons last year on student health and student attendance. Dr. Barbour discussed the change in the grade as a motivator for students to work for higher levels of mastery, having a sense of motivation versus “giving up” if exemption was lost.

All parent representatives expressed concern with both the absence and grade change. Mr. Musmanno asked about data comparisons once exam week with higher anticipated exemption levels is finished. Dr. Barbour indicated that data will be compiled and reviewed thereafter with the school council.

- AdvancED Accreditation process/timeline
 - System visit: 11.4.18-11.7.18
 - System interviews: 11.5.18
 - School visits: 11.6.18
 - Final review: 11.7.18

The accreditation process was reviewed by Dr. Barbour; VHS will not receive as school level visit by the accreditation team.

- School Strategic Improvement Plan (handout)
- Graduation rate = 4 year cohort = 90%
- CCRPI changes

Dr. Barbour discussed the changes in CCRPI evaluation grading and score balance. Final CCRPI data should be released in the next month, and the school’s report will be reviewed at the school council meeting thereafter.
- Professional Learning Communities and improvement efforts

The PLC process at the school was reviewed; Ms. Whiddon and Colonel Atkins discussed the impact of school and team level professional learning on their instruction and student progress as a positive change for both students and teachers.
- Celebrations
 - Athletic teams, Fine Arts, CTAE programs, and other extra-curriculars are off to a great start!

Mr. Byrd discussed the impact of the coaching staff and how they had positively impacted the student and families at VHS. He indicated that they had met the school’s demographics where they are and were good

Minutes for the School Council Meeting
Veterans High School Council
October 18, 2018

matches for our school's needs. Mrs. Brown further discussed the positive impact that involving the cheerleaders, band, and student section had on a feeling of buy in, belonging, and ownership that had allowed for a positive start to the school year.

- Valued @ the V
The Valued @ the V cards were discussed as a way the school is making positive student/parent contact, recognizing students doing well across the board – classroom behavior, character, engagement, improvement, and performance, to name a few. Dr. Barbour discussed how teachers were challenged to send one card per week to allow a venue for positive communication to parents and students. She also discussed the positive feedback thus far from parents and students. The students and staff members of the month have also been targeted as “valued @ the V” to further that concept and theme as the school recognizes its monthly core values.

9. Old Business

The sign was discussed as being a welcome addition.

10. New Business

None

11. Executive Session

None held

12. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the school council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45, by Mrs. Angel Brown. The next meeting will be held Thursday, November 15, 2018, in the Veterans High School media center.