

Minutes for the School Council Meeting
Veterans High School Council
February 28, 2019

The Veterans High School Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 7:00 a.m., in the media center - 340 Piney Grove Road, Kathleen, GA 31047.

Council Members Present:

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

School Council Members Absent:

Steve Atkins

1. Call to Order

Mr. Mark Byrd, vice chair, called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Byrd 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. Kaci Whiddon motioned to accept the agenda, and Neal Musmanno seconded. The vote was unanimous.

4. Approval of Minutes

A vote to approve the minutes from November 15, 2018 was taken. Anissa Driggers motioned to take the vote, and Kaci Whiddon seconded. The vote was unanimous.

5. Recognition of Visitors

None

6. Presentation(s) to School Council

None

7. Report of the Principal

- Exemption results

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Dr. Barbour reviewed results and feedback on the new exemption policy as experienced during the Fall 2018 exams. Absence percentages did not increase over prior years, and overall student grade averages made a slight increase. This was discussed as a possible result of more targeted instruction and intervention, but could additionally be correlated to exam exemption changes. Ms. Whiddon added that their exam use was more pointed and teachers were able to target student needs more specifically, and that departments used other assessments as a way to gauge overall student mastery. Mr. Byrd asked if students ended up coming to take the exams who had exempted with the lowered standard as some parents indicated early on, and Dr. Barbour indicated that was not widespread.

- School Safety
 - Emergency Drill review

Dr. Barbour reviewed the progressive emergency drill processes (yellow, red, active intruder) with the school council. More frequent unannounced drills would support better teacher responses and preparedness. Dr. Barbour further discussed identified needs for outside doors, students in outside areas, and student/teacher readiness.

- Metal Detectors

Dr. Barbour presented information with regards to metal detectors donated to the school by local veterinarian Dr. Hodges. The hand held metal detectors vibrate when wand over metal, and board procedure allows for them to be used with all students, at random, or on identified need for search. Dr. Barbour indicated the school administration did not see a need for any regular use of the metal detectors at this time, and indicated any cause for search has not been met with difficulty. She indicated the possibility of using them at games or other facility events.

- AdvancED Accreditation Final Report
 - Score of 338, over 60 points over the average five year score range
 - Score of 275 or higher indicates impact level and sustained practices and established culture
 - Four levels: NI, emerging, meets, & exceeds
 - 40 standards in 3 Domains: Leadership, Learning, & Resources = 6 exceeds/3 emerging/no NI
 - 3 emerging:
 - 2.7: Instruction is monitored & adjusted to meet individual learners' needs and system's learning expectations.
 - 2.11: Educators gather, analyze, & use formative and summative data that lead to improvement of student learning.
 - 3.5: Digital resources are integrated into teaching, learning, and operations to improve professional practice, student performance, and organizational effectiveness.

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Dr. Barbour presented overall findings from the AdvancED visit, and thanked Mrs. Brown, who participated as a parent representative, and Mr. Byrd, who participated as a community representative.

- SOAR Time
 - Remediation, enrichment, & extensions
 - Thursday advisement schedule
 - Weekly plan published for the coming week on Fridays online
 - Rotating priority weeks: English, Math, Social Studies, & Science
 - Strengths/improvements

Dr. Barbour discussed the implementation of SOAR (Seeking Opportunities for Advancement and Reinforcement). Opportunities for enrichment (the jazz age, historical significance of lynchings, yoga, for examples) were discussed, along with target needs for student growth in content areas. Areas for improvement included continuing to build the process and procedures both with teachers and students, addressing student needs from HCCA/dual enrollment, and using the time for overall program and content benefits. She further discussed the administrative and clerical roles in supporting student movement, supervision, and placements. Ms. Whiddon spoke to the ease of transition and the continued growth opportunities in this structure. Dr. Barbour added that teacher feedback thus far will be reviewed at the next school level leadership meeting, and that the possibility of adding a student advisory was discussed. Dr. Barbour stated that the weekly schedule is updated each Friday for the following week on the school's website for student and parent access and information.

- Night Advisement: 3.4.19-3.6.19

Dr. Barbour discussed upcoming night advisement structures and parent conferences.

- Awards programs: Freshmen, 4.2.19/Sophomores, 4.3.19/Juniors, 4.4.19
- Celebrations
 - 2019 Valedictorian – Aakash Arora/2019 Salutatorian – Landon Kirkland
 - STAR Student – Aakash Arora/STAR Teacher – Jennifer Douglass
 - Science Fair
 - Hunter Hoffman, Isha Shah, & Colton Walker: Georgia Science & Engineering Fair
 - Isha Shah & Colton Walker: International Science & Engineering Fair - Phoenix, AZ
 - Bethany Silver: Inspiring Excellence Award & Outstanding Teacher Award
 - All-State Chorus – 23 student participants
 - All-State Band: Abby Kiefer, Hailey Tayag, & Weza Jamison-Neto
 - Wrestling
 - Francis Morrissey – two time State Champion
 - Julian Farber, Alex Reynolds, & Markayla Stewart – 2nd place

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- 9 individuals placed
- Basketball – Girls/Boys
- Swim – County Championships
- Art – Perry Art Show:
 - Phoenix Palmer – 3rd in Painting
 - Amory Perman – Honorable Mention in Painting
- CTAE

AG:

State winner in Ag Sales and 2nd place Floriculture
Hannah Sieg (State highest individual scorer in Ag Sales)
Rileigh Kimball (third highest individual scorer in Floriculture)
County & State Livestock Show numerous winners

FBLA Region Winners & State Competitor Qualifiers:

Business Ethics	3rd Place	Jaiden Herrin, Ryleigh Acree, and Emily Beasley
Personal Finance	9th Place	Colin Ostratt
Accounting I	10th Place	Lindsey Heard

SkillsUSA Region 5:

Quiz Bowl - 1st place (Landon Kirkland, Noah Woodyard, Bryce Buchanan, Andrew Alarcon, and Josh Thompson)
T-Shirt Design - 3rd place (Colton Romines)

FCCLA:

Region STAR Events competition on Feb. 9th SILVER medals winners: Hannah Schoonover, Hannah Evans and Ashley Alexander - advance to State

Dr. Barbour discussed the great successes of the school since the last school council meeting. She additionally discussed the use of social media to recognize these in a more timely, widespread way.

9. Old Business

None

10. New Business

2019-2020 School Council member elections will be held in April.
Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6-10

Dr. Barbour asked the council to help with possibly supporting additional “thank yous” for teacher appreciation week either through volunteers, business sponsors, or other planning to thank the teachers this year in varied ways.

11. Executive Session

None held

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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, April 18, 2019, in the Veterans High School media center.