

# James Madison High School Shared Decision-Making Committee

**Minutes for:** meeting on October 31, 2018

**Location:** Madison Principal's Office

**Prepared by:** Allen Williams

**Start time:** 4:15 pm

The SDMC meeting was called to order at 4:15 pm in the principal's office.

Snacks and drinks were distributed. Introductions were made around the table. Those in attendance made their introductions around the table.

Allen Williams, classroom teacher

Selena Gomez, student

Linda Scurlock, community member

Jeff Plastrik, classroom teacher

Paolo Castagnoli, building principal

The agenda was presented to the SDMC as follows

Call to order, Introductions, Purpose, Enrollment and budget, Proposed positions and closing

## **Purpose**

After introductions were made, the purpose of the SDMC was presented to us in a paper document. Per the document, "the committee is an advisory group to the school principal except for approval of campus staff development. The committee must outline procedures for addressing the areas of involvement listed under *Responsibilities*, below and for decision making. The principal will consult the SDMC in matters relating to the school educational program, but the principal has the final authority in fiduciary and financial decisions."

It was also at this time that we were presented the topics of concern.

## **Enrollment and budget**

Mr. Castagnoli presented to us the total enrollment of the school. Our official attendance after snap shot is 1,739 students enrolled, which is 92 more than projected by HISD. It was explained to the committee that the enrollment would affect our budget for the year. We could receive anywhere from \$3,500- 3,800 per student, which would place us approximately \$340,000 over budget. Out of the amount we would receive, we have already spent \$133,000 on two positions.

Mr. Castagnoli expressed his concern to the SDMC about programs on our campus and asked that the members of the SDMC poll our colleagues, students and all stakeholders on what other programs we could present to the students at Madison.

## **Proposed Positions**

Further discussion of programs and needs of the students on the campus were presented and led to the discussion of proposed positions that are needed on campus.

Mr. Castagnoli proposed that we hire a 12 - month lead counselor and a dance instructor. Rationales were given on both positions. The need for another counselor would fill the academy need of one counselor and one administrator for every academy. The dance position would enhance the vertical alignment of a dance program with students from Lawson who have already pursued that path. It would also help alleviate the class sizes for the fine arts courses and service more students who have a desire for dance. Finally, it would also serve as a physical education credit as well.

### **Closing**

In preparation for the next meeting members of the SDMC were asked to search for more programs for the campus. We were also to prepare for the election of the vice chair and secretary of the committee. We also discussed having the SDMC concern forms available for members of the community, school staff, parents and students.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 pm.

Humbly submitted,

Allen Williams