

SDMC Meeting

December 16, 2019

The SDMC meeting convened at 4:30 pm at James Madison High School, in the principal's conference room on the second floor.

Those in attendance were as follows:

Carlotta Brown, Principal

Courtney White, Teacher

Allen Williams, Teacher

Netra C. Hunt, Administration

Tammy Jones, Parent

Jeff Plastrik, Teacher

Laura Del Rio, Teacher

Linda Skurlock, Community Member

DeAngela Archie, PTSO President

Vernice Seriale, Business member

The meeting opened with introductions by all members of the SDMC.

BUDGET

Students enrolled are 100 over. Each child enrolled is about \$5,000. We will have a lot of overage on the campus because of the overage of enrolled students.

Principal Brown stated a bulk of the money is spent on the stipends on the campus. Money for the school budget will be loaded December 17, 2020.

Ms. Archie asked how often do they load the money. Principal Brown stated that PEIMS went in on October. The money will be delivered in December. Principal Brown stated she believed in spending the money so that it is not reallocated to other campuses in HISD.

STAFFING

The greatest concern is in the math department. We are having a hard time finding math teachers. It is not just a Madison issue, but an issue all over HISD. We have consultants on campus. We have spent over \$50,000 in consultant funds for this current semester. We were also offered to spend over

\$100,000 for the next semester. Principal Brown declined their services as the cost is not cost effective. The general consensus of the SDMC agreed.

Ms. Skurlock asked if parents were notified that their students were being taught by non-certified teachers. Principal Brown stated they were notified the first week of December.

C. White asked if we were partnering with local colleges or universities to try and hire students who are education majors? Principal Brown stated that Superintendent Dr. Lathan is trying to get the college students who will do that will be hired on a contract with HISD as they receive their hours.

Principal Brown stated we interviewed and hired a new special education teacher. The concern is that most teachers are not certified in their fields but will be co-certified in other fields.

Ms. Archie asked if the non-certified teachers will present a major concern with the test scores? Principal Brown stated currently the scores show that there is no problem with this. They did take their EOC tests last week and we will determine if there is any growth or concerns.

ATTENDANCE

Principal Brown stated that the administration has been notifying students about seat time and their requirement for students being in class. As a result of this, Madison was recognized as to having the campus attendance scores improve by HISD administration. We also received an award for most improved attendance in HISD.

Principal Brown stated she stopped students from getting checked out early. It has reduced a lot. She also has required the parents to sign a document so that the parent knows that the child will not receive attendance appeals and credit recovery if the child leaves early.

RESTRICTION

Parents who cannot conduct themselves appropriately have been restricted to be on the campus. Profanity and inappropriate dress will not be tolerated.

GRADUATION

Ms. Archie asked what things are attracting students to the campus and how can the graduation rate increase. This came from the concern that there were a lot of chairs at previous graduations that were empty. The concern was addressed that the HISD graduation "team" places that amount of chairs for the largest graduating campuses, but it weighs no merit on the graduation rate on our campus. Principal Brown also stated that we will take a better look at ensuring our 9th graders make it to graduation.

PARENT CONCERNS

Ms. Archie asked what programs were in place for students to prepare for life after high school, such as balancing a budget, preparing for an interview, etc. Principal Brown, Ms. White & Mr. Plastrik responded with what programs were on the campus.

Ms. Scurlock stated that we do not reach out to the civic clubs enough. She is requesting information for the civic clubs to have so that all the information about what's going on the campus so that the proper channels and venues are being utilized. She suggests we have a community meeting with the civic clubs and organizations so that the community can be involved.

Mr. Seraile stated that the students at Lawson MS are excited to come to Madison. He asks what are we going to do with the students who are in 9th grade that will graduate on time? Principal Brown stated that the students are in line with the students graduating, meaning that our graduation rate matches that of schools that look like us around the state.

Ms. Archie asked what has transpired to motivate students to progress in this society of negativity? Principal Brown stated she brings in successful people from that graduated from here and are from the area.

MORAN NORRIS

Mr. Norris is treating the faculty and staff to lunch this Friday. He asked if the gymnasium could be named after him. Principal Brown asked what requirements should we do to name it after him? Much discussion was given to this topic. The decision will be to create a committee that gives suggestions to the SDMC before it will be brought to the school board.

STUDENT CONCERNS

The Hispanic Heritage festival was cancelled because of fighting. Mr. Williams and Ms. White addressed the concern for dealing with the problem of cancelling programs for the entire campus. The request also came from Mr. Seriale. It was suggested that we have student court, lunch cleaning, etc. to make it very rigorous for students who fight are not wanting to go again. Principal Brown agreed with the SDMC and will move in that direction.

Dress code

The request was to include the school spirit shirts. Mr. Williams suggested that the school spirit shirts be removed. The SDMC declined the suggestion.

Uber eats

The request was for Uber eats. Ms. Skurlock asked if the other places like Chi-fil-a made the minimal nutritional value. Principal Brown started allowing Uber Eats. It was stopped based upon the fighting. Ms. Skurlock was concerned about the certification of the delivery of the food, the safety and etc. It was confirmed the Uber eats was not a concern of any of that, but the issue was mainly fighting. Principal Brown will allow it to come back later.

TEACHER CONCERNS

A letter to the SDMC was concerned about a particular program on the campus. The information was presented and was asked to remain confidential. The request to refrain from taking minutes on the matter was granted.

BUILDING CONCERNS

There is an active reservoir underneath the building causing the auditorium to be shut down. There are many building problems. Principal Brown will be walking the building with the contractors on tomorrow.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Ms. Skurlock asked when will the SIP be written and is Madison on track for the next SIP? Principal Brown stated we are on track and it will be written by July. Madison is on top of the scores, even better than HISD and the other campuses that look like Madison.

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm

Minutes taken by : Allen Williams