PCMS Foundation

Academics & Curriculum Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2019

Attendance: Allegra Johnson (chair), Wanda Roane, Erika Harris (as guest), Emily Ceo (Governing Board Co-Chair) Kamaria Shauri (Teacher), Daniel Almeida, Leslie Roberston (Teacher), Donnie Davis(Principal), Andrew Ziffer (GB Community member), Michelle Perez (AP of Instruction),Kris Mamaghani (Finance Director)Jessica Loffredio, Pam Rock, Jason Cristal,Terica Harleaux

Meeting was called to order at 7:35am.

All in attendance introduced themselves, see list above. Public comment: Parent concerned about child’s education 2 teachers have left, no instruction, all worksheets since substitutes. There was no adequate, in his opinion, regarding the elimination of the high achiever program and now he hears that next year’s entrance requirements may be more stringent. The school is setting up his child for failure by not preparing him be able to achieve the higher standards. 2nd parent echoes comments above. Wants to know if the same scheduling as at CMS could be followed. Their program seems successful and she can see a major difference comparative to last year.

Unanimous approval of Minutes from September, 2019 meeting. Robertson, Roane

Principal’s report. 1539 enrollment. Presently looking for a 7th grade ELA teacher and social studies coach. Discussion about strategic pplan included ultimate effects on scheduling, i.e. music, language, ELT, triple dosing, STEM Academy and math pathways. Some of these programs are overlapping. Presently looking at priority of programs. Committees are evaluating ELT, STEM Academy access and math pathways, i.e. advanced algebra and accelerated pre-calculus. Presently PCMS has one track.

Harris: What will DHS off if new pathways are created?

Ceo: New pathways maybe helpful with SAT/ACT preparation

Johnson: Are we looking at different pathways because of discussions with DHS? Explanation of drop date for accelerated math class, prior to 35th day of school.

Roane: is ELT structured? Answer by Perez. All 6th graders take ELT, 7th some yes, some know based onif taking languzge and 8th, co-taught and teams decide what is most appropriate for their students.

Benefits of the team structure, pros and cons: size, could be like HS model or students have same teachers.

Roane: Can ELT be used to target students for remedial help and help in skill building.

Davis: Ultimate goal is to have all pieces fit: scheduling, student needs, school goals, etc. ELT discussion will continue at a later date. Leadership teams have been formed to involce more teacher input i.e ELT has it’s own subcommittee of teachers.

High Achiever Update: Andrew Ziffer, task force lead, they’ve been working for 3 months now. Themes have arisen with research: 75% proposal possible since so few students’ effect, middle tier of students is missing rigor, students should never be labeled and will gifted classes become too large if criteria is changed. Next step is public input through survey monkey (5 questions), with goal of proposal to be brought to November meeting

Next Meeting is November 19, 2019 @ 7:30am in PCMS Conference Room.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30am