

SIC Meeting 9-15-16

Minutes

- Lunch
- Welcome and introductions
 - Members introduced themselves
 - Ms. Atkins welcomed the group
 - She shared that part of our 5 year plan will to start an Outdoor learning lab, or sustainability lab.
 - Last year's committee discussed a Sip and Sob for K5 parents, AES did implement the Sip and Sob this year and gained a very valuable volunteer as a result.
 - We'd like to move forward in the following years, to
- What is SIC and its impact and importance of the school?
 - Ms. Atkins discussed briefly the purpose of SIC – School Improvement Council.
- What is the mission of SIC?
 - Ms. Atkins explained that our mission is aligned to everything we do, which is in turn aligned to the District mission.
 - She read the mission statement to the group.
- SIC training for new members or if interested in a refresher. (visit : <http://sic.sc.gov/Pages/default.aspx> or see Martha if you have questions)
 - Ms. Harris discussed the training for new members

Upcoming goals of the SIC

- Continue and expand on the 5 year plan
 - Ms. Atkins explained that we are looking close to beginning a new 5 year plan; because we have a new team, we will begin one this year (2016-17) with the new group.
- Sustainability Gardens (curriculum classroom interactive classroom)
 - Ms. Harris discussed the sustainability curriculum/classroom.
 - She showed the group a video from a sustainability garden in Berkley, CA.
 - Ms. Atkins explained to the committee that a sustainability garden aligns directly with the district's *Building a Better Graduate & Creating Career & College Ready Students* (G – Plus) initiative.
 - Mrs. Reece, Guidance Counselor, explained to the group in more detail the G – Plus initiative.
 - Ms. Griner, Librarian & Teacher of the Year, said she has experience with outdoor learning labs and thinks it's a wonderful idea.

- A paid garden teacher as a RA would be ideal
- Nancy Cooper, from Furman, said she felt she could provide volunteers through the Hellar Foundation.
- Ms. Hill said she'd love to see that at AES, and that she and Ms. Atkins had visited a school in Spartanburg that had a garden. One item to be aware of is that the district has a very strict policy on students eating 'home grown' vegetables.
- Everyone thought it is a great idea and voted to move forward with the sustainability garden.

Previous goals

- Electronic Sign – there are some district rules and red tape that we are still working through. The district wants to be sure that
- Fence around the playground
 - Still in discussion, at this point we have not been able to secure funding for this.
- Other ideas from SIC members
 - Widening the entrance to the school parking lot.
- Meeting time and dates for the year.
- October 20th 12-1 pm (approve new date with members)
 - The date was changed to October 6th.
 - January 19th 12-1 pm
 - February 23rd 12-1 pm
 - March 9th 12-1 pm
 - May
- The group toured the school to see artwork done, based on SIC recommendation's from the previous year, as well as the possible areas to be used for the sustainability garden/classroom.
- Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Minutes: Suzie Hill

In Attendance: Amy Reese, Suzie Hill, John Rogers, Tracey Lloyd, Andy Bell, Matthew Cohen, Nancy Cooper, Lauren Jones, Marianna Ray, Martha Harris, Jennifer Brown, Tracy Atkins and Laura Griner