

School Improvement Council

Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2016

★ Lunch

★ Welcome

- Members introduced themselves
- Ms. Atkins welcomed the group
- She mentioned the prior plans suggested for the 5 year plan are coming together and we will move forward on the details of the sustainability garden.

Current Goals for SIC

- ★ Begin review of School Improvement Plan and other school data such as survey results, test scores, demographic information, and budget.
 - We looked at the Data Analysis & Needs Assessment, which included test scores of grades 3-5 from 2009-2014. Ms. Atkins was unable to share the current data for 2015 results, but should be able to discuss at a meeting in the near future.
- Begin ongoing monitoring of school's progress toward achieving goals in our SIC plan.
 - Begin identifying areas of school need or goals that the SIC wants to focus on and appoint temporary committee for each specific area.
 - Look at the strengths, opportunities and areas to improve the school academically and cosmetically.
 - Overall, 2014 looks like the best year. Scores since 2009:
 - ELA - over time increasing percentage, best rating in 2014
 - Math - fluctuates over the years, getting better
 - Writing - increased since 2009
 - Science - increased since 2009
 - Social Studies - increased, best rating in 2014

- PASS 2013-2015 results

- We looked at subgroups and the opportunity to integrate new ideas to improve scores. (Such as Read to Succeed, a new state requirement for 2nd grade.)
- Tests have changed over the years, as well as students and teachers.

1. Share ideas individual ideas for a 5 year Sustainability Gardens implementation plan (curriculum classroom interactive classroom)

★ Review the existing 5 year plan (copy available at meeting)

- Currently, the main concern is SAFETY, which is a big issue.
 - Several people have taken action to make sure our voices are heard concerning the missing fencing at the back of the school. The District asked for a written request. Then sent a Safety Assessment contractor to school who provided a report to the District and are now entertaining our request.
 - The need is to increase the % of teachers/students who feel safe at school.
 - Ms. Atkins shared her only reservation about the fencing is if students and faculty needed to evacuate, it would be a little more difficult with fencing.
- Sustainability Garden will help improve test scores. We are strategically putting a plan in place... [handout given - Act/Plan/Study/Do]. Jennifer Brown assisted Ms. Atkins in taking notes on the board to get a plan in action.
 - Outdoor tangible learning space for students
 - Increase academic scores and attendance
 - Start to measure inter-personal skills
 - Increase collaborative opportunities
 - Cross curricular activities to meet state standard
 - Promote community partnerships and involvement
 - Environmental awareness:
 - where food comes from

■ sustainability

- End of goal of garden after learning???
- Study infrastructure and economic resources necessary to accomplish task
 - Will food that is grown be provided to community or students?

- Who will be involved in this process?

Ms. Nancy Cooper said Furman students are excited and ready to volunteer with the sustainability garden at Armstrong. Mrs. Emery also expressed the community members of Berea First Baptist Church may have interest in assisting with the garden. Lauren Jones will contact FFA at Travelers Rest High School about volunteers as well.

- Armstrong Elementary will be sponsoring a Community Pep Rally on October 18th at 3:30 pm. Inviting all residential and business owners and district representatives within a 10 mile radius, to come and share ideas to create a positive impact on the White Horse Road community.

★ Meeting time and dates for the year

- ★ January 19th 12-1 pm
- ★ February 23rd 12-1 pm
- ★ March 9th 12-1 pm

★ Adjourn at 1:00 pm