

MONTFORD



MUSTANGS

School Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

2/16/17

Montford Middle School

Members Present: Lewis Blessing, Christy Hanna, Robin Wood, Amber Kristian, Shaunte Deas-Banks,, Peggy Benton, Jessica Goodman-Taylor Pitts, Brooke Pautsch, Beth Bass, Martha Cummings, Abby Schnittker

Excused: Dr. Deborah Thomas, Libby Farmer, Tara Jihad, Alex Jordan

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Approval of Agenda & October 2016 Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the agenda and October 20th SAC minutes; the motion carried to a second without objections or corrections.

Principal Blessing Update:

Events: Boys Basketball and Girls Soccer will have playoffs next week and hopefully championship games. Math team competed in several competitions and has done well. Beta has tapped its new members for this year. Relay For Life is coming up in May. Art Day is Monday, Feb. 20th. Dr. Sheppard sets it up in the gym and invites local artists to show their work and speak with students about their craft. Dr. Sheppard was the Glenn Howell Distinguished Educator of the Year for Montford this year.

There were a handful of Montford teachers that were named High Impact Teachers by the State as a result of their high VAM (Value Added Model)scores. These teachers scored highly based on 11 factors; they are Ms. Wendy Taylor, Ms. Tiffany Ward, Mr. Jimmy Mincy, Ms. Michelle Quintero, Ms. Susan Fowler, Ms. Gail Christensen, and Mr. Brett Barfield.

Technology: The touch screen panels were installed in Bldg 5, the teachers love them! We are still in need of panels in two rooms in Bldg 2 and 9 or 10 in Bldg. 3. Looking at the budget and want to have all remaining panels installed by summer or fall.

The State has started a Digital Technology Initiative and they are providing every school laptops for testing. Montford will be getting 206 laptops for next school year. It

will cut down on testing days and simplify the complex scheduling for each grade. As part of this initiative we will also be receiving 8 wireless access points. Currently the new building, 8, has this in every room.

Media Center will be receiving 4 robotics kits to be added to the Maker Space section Ms. Drake already has set up.

Other news: They have started the scheduling process for next school year. All classes that are offered this year will be offered next school year as well, may add more technology classes depending on class sizes. Legislation is proposing all testing should be performed in the last 3 weeks of school for all the state. There are pros and cons to this and there will be plenty of discussions about this soon. Also next school year calendar includes 1 week off for Thanksgiving and ending school on June 1st.

SIP Update: Mr. Blessing discussed the mid year report and stated that every subject is making progress and they will all be on grade level in April. He is pleased with the numbers and is confident that the teachers have prepared the students for the tests.

DAC Report by Mrs. Peggy Benton:

Mrs. Benton started with an introduction and has attended 4 meetings; the minutes from the 11/10, 12/8, 1/5 and 2/9 DAC meetings were enclosed in the folder.

PTSO by Mrs. Martha Cummings:

2nd Booster push was sent via listserve this week and focuses on getting 8-10 more screens. Going to start recruiting for new board soon: need Pres, VP, Treas, Let PTSO know of names you might know so we can start reaching out. Online spirit store doing well. Sold most of remaining inventory at 6th grade curriculum night. Pizza sales have been very successful. Ordered vinyl signs to go on fence for Business Partners. Hoping to have those ready by next week. Staff Appreciation is tentatively set for May 5 for the lunch, they are waiting approval from Mr. Blessing.

SGA by Miss Abby Schnittker:

They are having a really good year. Just finished hosting a Mardi Gras themed Winter Dance, which was well attended (part of the proceeds will towards Relay For Life). In the Fall, they also hosted a holiday party, went shopping for families in need at Target, held a food drive for Second Harvest and a toy drive for Toys for Tots; they also were in charge of spirit week and had a great pep rally. This semester they will continue to help out at the school wherever needed and choose new board members for next year.

Old Business:

No Old Business to report.

New Business:

Since Spring Break will be March 13-17 we will not have a SAC meeting in March.

At our next meeting, April 20th, we will be voting on new officers: Chair, Secretary, DAC representatives 1 & 2, PTSO representative. The new board takes over in September.

Discussion on how to help with test anxiety-MMS tends to make the testing season as low key as possible. Mr. Blessing said he would talk to teachers and guidance about coping strategies and send something out on listserv to parents. Mr. Blessing also mentioned that Montford would have a mental health counselor as a permanent position starting next school year.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be April 20th

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.