

**Lawton Chiles High School  
School Advisory Council Meeting  
January 30, 2024 – In person, 6PM EST**

**Voting Members Present**

Administration – Joe Burgess, Calli Pickens, Grace Bigelow

Parents – Sarah Latimer, Sabah Bissainthe, Shouping Hu, Angie Davis, Beth Jackson, Kimberly Revell, Lillie Thomas, Nia Wellendorf, Fred Wollet.

Chair – Wesley White

Secretary – Robin Oliveri

DAC Representative- Excused

BAC Representative - Excused

Support Staff – Amber Kristian, Nicola Miller

Faculty – Lisa Donaldson, Lynn Schuster, Michael German, Alice Mathis, Gaye Allum, Oscar Brennan, Amy Sherry-Marsh, Andrew Shoenberger, Amanda Thai, Bonni Warren, Matthew Yates.

Parent Liaison- Jessica Oyster

PTO Representatives –Kelley O'Rourke, Lillie Thomas

Community Partners- Martha Cummings, Arzu Leushuis

Student SGA – Lisa Donaldson, Rylan Clark, Mary Beth Cooksey

**Voting Members Not Present**

Rebecca Bandy, Sabrina Holloman, Chris Chaback, Jim Navero

**Guests Present**

Lisa Urban

**Meeting Called to order at 6:01 p.m.**

Agenda approved: Motion – All

Minutes approved: Motion - Angie Davis, Nia Wellendorf

Previous minutes approved. - All

**A. Welcome – Wesley White call to order 6:04pm**

-Approve agenda – all approve

-Minutes from Oct. 2022 approved – all approve

**B. Reports to be Heard**

**a. Principal's Report – Mr. Burgess**

- i. Chiles lost a student in October and continues to keep the family in our thoughts.
- ii. Winter and Spring sports are underway and on the horizon. A signing day took place on December 13. Another Signing Day will take place on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm with over 10 students committing to college teams.
- iii. We continue to support students with our student of the month award. Two students are nominated by teachers and staff who exemplify the Chiles Motto: I learn, I do, I lead. The focus is to recognize students who may not be in other award areas. Students receive a picture with administration, a yard sign, and a food gift card.

- iv. MLK Dreamer and Doer recipients are Jazmine Blythe and Jose Leath. We are very proud of these two outstanding young people.
- v. On December 3, Chiles hosted The Longest Table to facilitate discussion on affordable housing and debt-free college. Participating students came from Chiles, Lincoln, Godby, Leon, Rickards, Maclay, North Florida Christian, and home school. This event is set up and coordinated by students.
- vi. Financial aid night is upcoming.
- vii. Chiles participated in the Reach Across America event at the Capital on December 14, 2024.
- viii. Student Math Team hosted the Mini Mu math competition – very successful!
- ix. Holiday concerts held by the fine arts department drew large crowds. Chiles also hosted the Big Bend All Star Band concert.
- x. Coming up:
  - 1. February 9 -Spirit of Performing Arts
  - 2. Grade level assemblies
  - 3. February 15 – Pep Rally to benefit the stroke center
  - 4. February 22 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent night & curriculum fair
  - 5. February 23 – Dance
  - 6. February 28 – ESE Parent Information night

**b. DAC – Burgess**

- i. October meeting discussions included safety and security update on 922-kids, lightspeed keystroke, and more deputies at Cox Stadium. New high school cameras will be able to see weapons and send alerts. Star metro free for students inside the city.
- ii. Textbook and instructional policies were discussed.
- iii. School health services – high schools currently pay for their own health aide whereas elementary and middle school positions are funded by district.
- iv. November meeting failed to meet quorum. Legislative updates were shared; LCS foundation update provided on grant cycle, discussion on mental health and wellness was provided by Tonja Fitzgerald.
- v. Emergency management - Chiles is a pet friendly shelter.
- vi. Student and parent rights policy was reviewed.
- vii. New district LGBTQAi policy reviewed. Chiles has unmarked bathrooms, there are two private areas and general bathrooms have individual stalls.
- viii. Legislative consultant offered tips on meeting with legislators. Encourages us to meet with the aides and staff as a first step.

**c. PTO – Kelly O'Rourke**

- i. Teacher appreciation is a key focus for PTO.
- ii. Thomas Toyota has offered a new scholarship for students.
- iii. A new brick campaign will be starting for bricks around the Rotunda entrance. Order forms will be coming out soon.
- iv. Honor roll pizza lunches will be coming up for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter grades.
- v. PTO meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at noon in person and on zoom.

**C. Old Business – Mr. Burgess**

**D. New Business – Mr. Burgess**

- a. **Technology** – Teacher technology will be updated. Motion proposed by Bigelow for money to purchase new computers for the Social Studies department from school

improvement money. Motion seconded by Martha Cummings. Vote passed unanimously.

- b. **Black History Month** – focus will be on the cultural contributions of African Americans with a cultural fair-type over extended lunch, food trucks. Volunteers are needed.
- c. **Course Offerings** – Each department reviewed course progressions and new courses. The Chiles goal is to properly place students with a focus on graduation and post-secondary preparation.
  - i. **PE – Amy Sherry-Marsh-** Still have HOPE as PE and **one PE credit required for graduation.**
  - ii. **Applied Tech** – CTE courses offer certifications for employment, some courses do require a certified teacher in the subject while others don't. Staffing changes and/or shortages can impact teacher availability. Communication with parents is provided. None are tied to externships. **A new certification program in welding is being offered next year.**
  - iii. **Science – Bonni Warren** – No changes in the course progressions for next year. **3 sciences are required for graduation and must include Biology/Biology EOC.** More science is recommended for college acceptance. Earth/Space science is 1<sup>st</sup> (either general or honors). Biology general/honors with required EOC for graduation. There are many choices after Biology depending on proper math and chemistry foundation. Chiles follows the College Board for recommendations to AP classes: Biology and Chemistry honors as pre-requisitions.
  - iv. **Social Sciences – Oscar Brennan – Now 3.5 credits required for graduation** with addition of Financial Literacy course by DOE. The course is currently being added to 10<sup>th</sup> grade schedules. Online is available. There are currently 23 different course offerings.
  - v. **World Languages – Matthew Yates** – French, Latin, and Spanish are currently offered. Students must have two consecutive years of the same high school credit language for college acceptance. Levels 1 and 2 are both general, levels 3 & 4 are honors. French 4 and Latin 4 are AP courses.
  - vi. **Exceptional Student Education (ESE) – Amanda Thai** – Unique Skills is offered for 9-12 to provide academic support per the IEP specifications. Grades 9-10 offer organization. Grades 11 & 12 focus on job skills. An Access program is offered for students with cognitive delay. Timberwolves United is a campus club for students to work with the Access students. Students in Access have separate diploma requirements and state testing based on access points.
  - vii. **ELA – Andrew Shoenberger – Four credits are required for graduation.** A new seminar and capstone course is being offered for students interested in college level independent research. ELA courses are offered in gifted, honors, general, and intensive levels based on qualifications for grades 9-12. Seniors can take AP Lit or dual enrollment.
  - viii. **Fine Arts – Mike German – One credit in a fine or practical art is required for graduation.** Acting 1 has been added for students who completed Theatre 3 in middle school. Theatre also offers focus on set design. Traditional courses in band, orchestra, chorus, guitar, music, ensemble, and voice are offered 9-12. Visual arts offered include sculpture, 2D, and ceramics. Course offerings depend on student interest.

- ix. **Math – Gaye Allum – No changes in progression. Four math credits required for graduation to include Algebra and pass either the Algebra or Geometry EOC.** Four AP courses are offered and Dual enrollment is available for seniors.

**E. Adjourn –7:30**

**Next meeting:** February 27, 2024

*Robin L. Oliveri*

2/26/24

Date

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Robin Oliveri, Secretary