

Title I Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 11, 2019, 6pm to 8pm
Godby High School

Present: Shereika Tucker, Talethia Edwards, Carolyn Hector Hall, Marie-Claire Leman, Allison Stachnik, Rebecca Johnson, Latrenda Jackson, Shari Gewanter, Scott Mazur, Charles Williams, Theoria Clark, Steve Mills, Maria McIntyre, Darryl Jones, Ed Feaver, Courtney Atkins, Joi Phillips, Ashley Scott, Michele Prescott, Janele Bullard, Desmond Cole, Taita Scott, Tina Austin, Carmen Connor, Jessica Andrews, Victoria Williams, David Sorey, Zac Johnson.

Spotlight on Godby by Principal Desmond Cole

Title I funds have been utilized to reduce class size and be able to be more creative with the staff planning. It has also been used to purchase software to help with the testing season. At Godby, 75% of students are at a level 1 or 2 in one subject and it is challenging to get them up to level 3. Principal Cole has made a point of putting Title I \$\$ where they best serve the students. One of the challenges of high school is that by this age, many students are dealing with very real life difficult and stressful situations – more so than elementary and middle school.

Announcements and Updates

Title I District updates:

- The district Title I office is looking for some additional funds.
- They surveyed principals to see what their needs are and one of the most common response was professional development. The district is thinking of addressing this through a big professional development conference.
- The district office is working on establishing a resources center that is a place that can be used by parents. They are looking at other centers that work well in Duval and Orange.
- On March 1 they are launching a Newspaper to inform parents of community events and resources.
- They are looking at providing STEM opportunities to all students and looking at transportation

Mr. Darryl Jones suggested that the TAC, as it meets in different schools, should invite parents to speak at every meeting to give feedback.

Survey results:

At the time of the meeting we had 14 respondents:

Location of TAC meetings: 43% of respondents want to continue to rotate from school to school and 57% of respondent do not. Most respondents do not want us to meet at the District office.

Format of meetings: 70% want the meetings to include time for small group work. Most want the time allocated to be between 30 and 45 minutes.

Written feedback included: meetings could be shorter, dinner could be served, meetings could be less frequent, more interaction with school board members, more focus on priorities, meetings could be more centrally located.

TAC Priorities

Talethia Edwards: we have narrowed down the priorities to three:

- Financial incentives to attract and retain teachers in Title I schools
- Ensuring access to quality pre-K programs for kids in Title I school zones
- Strengthening the cooperation and communication between feeder pattern schools

Mr. Jones: the TAC should provide recommendations before the School Board retreat to tell the school board what we think should inform their budget moving forward.

Financial Incentives to attract and retain teachers in Title I schools:

Consideration of the cost analysis of giving an additional \$800 for 863 teachers (plus the existing \$200) for a \$10,000 increase.

Principal Prescott (Chairs Elementary): For her school if she paid each teacher for an extra 1/2 hour she would be allocating \$144000 of her Title I funding towards teachers. She surveyed her teachers and the majority do not think this is a good use of Title I funding.

Marie-Claire Leman: The idea is not to use Title I funds to do this. The idea is to recognize that the job of teaching in Title I school is more demanding, requires more hours, and that the pay should be commensurate with that reality.

Scott Mazur: Even if you gave \$10 000 you wouldn't attract teachers to profession right now. The current Title I stipend of \$200 a year is a slap in the face but in the bigger picture there is much more to address.

Zac Johnson, Hawks Rise teacher: While teachers everywhere are no happy about the level of salaries, there is an awareness that the picture looks very different in a Title I school.

Principal Cole wondered if a different pay level to teach at a different school would send the message that the job is worth more at one school than another.

Principal Taita Scott: We need strong teachers at the testing grade and not new teachers in those grades.

Courtney Atkins reminded us of the idea of asking the business community to contribute incentive
Principal Scott mentioned that in Broward County Title I teachers got reduction in rent.

Mr. Jones: Superintendent Hanna is meeting with City and County. Perhaps they could make a policy that rent is less expensive if you are a Title I teacher. We could create policy to reflect those values.

Providing access to quality pre-K program:

Ms. Atkins: Many of us already meeting around the same issue to join force. TCC Foundation Aspire is looking at a collective impact model that would include a family empowerment task force. They want to address readiness scores by investing in traveling pop-up schools, training parents as teachers for their kids, having a consistent idea of what kindergarten readiness looks like district wide.

Maria McIntyre: Who was at the meeting?

Ms. Atkins: WFSU, Nicole Patton Terry of the FCRR, Brooke Brunner, Talethia Edwards, Marcus Nicholas, and Whole Child Leon. Ms. Atkins is suggesting that the TAC early childhood education task force join tht group.

Protecting the funding that enabled the Principals to make gains in previous year

Ms. Stachnik: what does the district do to help schools stay at a C and continue to improve?

Principal Scott: we need layers of support to be in place for schools that go up to a C to ensure that they can continue to work towards a B.