

# Gilchrist School Advisory Council (SAC)

## Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2020 at 6:00pm

**Members attending:** Scotty Crowe, Dawn Wilder, Rosie Wyatt, Diana Haverlah, Lynn Hatchett, Amy Taylor, Kristy Newland, Debbie Wiggins, Scottie Brezovsky, Kim Thomas, Laura Leslie, Dieonne Smith, Kellie Ralston, Rebekah Weldon, Jen Patterson, Bevin Steverson, Ginny Stewart

- I. SAC Chair's Message—Jen Patterson
  - a. Opening message and welcome was shared
  - b. Approval of minutes from the 9/15/20 SAC meeting
- II. Principal's Report—Scotty Crowe
  - a. Great start to school year! We were happy to welcome back the Digital Academy (DA) students who returned to Brick & Mortar (BM) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks.
  - b. 1:1 Initiative
    - i. Chromebooks will arrive soon, Gilchrist tech team has developed a plan for distribution to the BM classrooms and the DA students
  - c. Upcoming events: progress reports, Red Elephant Share Night, Holiday Spirit Week
- III. Gilchrist Spotlight: LCS Foundation Grant—Ginny Stewart
  - a. Ms. Stewart wrote a grant to the LCS Foundation entitled "Citizen Scientist Learning Gardens". The goal of the project is to enhance the outdoor classroom's educational opportunities by allowing K-5 students to develop environmental literacy and respect for preserving local habitats
  - b. Artist Ron Thompson was commissioned to create interactive murals using the inquiry model in his art—making students wonder
  - c. In addition to the awarded grant money in-kind donations were made by Gilchrist parents, alumni, and community business partners. These donations will allow for expansion of the project to include additional mural painting, outdoor seating, rain gardens, etc.
- IV. PTO President's Message—Rebekah Weldon
  - a. Gilchrist did an excellent job in raising funds through the Boosterthon
  - b. Prizes & pizza party gift cards have been delivered,
  - c. Next up will be dressing Mr. Crowe
  - d. Suggestion for PTO to sponsor a parent/teacher outdoor garden committee to discuss items such as outdoor seating & eating areas
- V. DAC Report—Kristy Newland
  - a. Report from October DAC Meeting shared; highlights include:

- i. Governor's mandate to open schools by 8/31/20
- ii. Bringing the classroom home via Digital Academy options
- iii. School choice is still available for schools that are not at capacity
- iv. LCS will still have Spring Break March 15-19, 2021

VI. School Improvement Budget—Rosie Wyatt

- a. As many LCS budgets were cut/reduced this year due to the global pandemic, there was no SIP budget allocation for the 2020-2021 school year (traditionally in past years schools received \$10.00/student to support SIP initiatives)
- b. Regardless, GES will strive to meet and exceed SIP goals

VII. COVID-19 Updates—Rosie Wyatt & Bevin Steverson

- a. Reported on numbers of COVID positive students & employees at Gilchrist & across the district (up-to-date district numbers can be found on LCS website)
- b. Communication is shared with GES community via list-serv and parent portal; transparency in our health safety measures and numbers is our priority
- c. Thus far, all cases have been contracted outside of school; no school community spread to date
- d. Students are doing well with wearing masks, social distancing, & hand washing; thank you to parents for keeping children home when they are sick or when anyone in the home is being tested for COVID
- e. The educational choice window for the 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks opened on 11/23/20; the 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks starts on 1/20/21
- f. No specifics on teacher assignments for DA students returning to BM until we get our final numbers

VIII. Final Questions/Comments

- a. Questions were raised about state testing for the 2020-2021 school year
  - i. At this time we will still have FSA for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders
  - ii. Schools will still be rated with a school grade based on student outcomes
  - iii. At this time many questions remain unanswered regarding the logistics of testing environments, proctors, etc.
- b. Wellness Wednesday 12/16/20—district focus on Wellness for K-12 students

IX. Upcoming SAC meeting dates (6:00pm via Teams):

- a. Tuesday, January 12, 2021
- b. Tuesday, March 9, 2021

X. SAC meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.