



James S. Rickards High School
School Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2022
6:00 pm – ZOOM

Welcome

- Ms. Wells, DAC chair, welcomed all parents, teachers and community leaders.

Agenda

- Ms. Marie Claire Lemman made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Errianna Quallo. Agenda approved.

Minutes

- Dr. McNeil made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Cindy Waymon. Minutes approved.

Student Government Association (SGA) Update

- SGA President Errianna Quallo provided an updated from SGA. Literacy day at Bond Elementary was successful. Planning Dr. Suess day at Pineview Elementary. Black History Door Decorating Contest planned. Spirit Week and Pep Rally planned for March 4. Working on ICC Meeting February 28. Superintendent Rocky Hanna will meet with Rickards' student leaders across campus. Rickards SGA is very active on social media.

Principal's Report

- **Mental Health-** Mr. Cowart discussed student mental health. Students are dealing with a lot of mental health issues. Schools around the country have a large increase in suicide risk assessments. If you know or see something, say something. Students can communicate to administration, guidance, faculty and staff to report concerns. Discussed student-led peer meditation.
- **Testing-** Dr. Barnes explained that February through April is testing session. Dr. McNeil provided the testing schedule. Ms. Davina Young asked about the civics class requirements for middle school. Dr. McNeil explained that middle school requirements are separate from high school requirements.
- **Class Ranking-** Senior ranking is final and available.
- **Honor Roll Celebration-** Dr. Barnes explained that the Honor Roll Celebration was very successful. 587 honor students, 29 perfect attendance.
- **Pre-Law Academy Program-** Dr. McNeil explained that the program will be implemented beginning next year with 9th graders. Rickards is looking to build partnerships in the community. Dr. McNeil asked parents to bring ideas to the next meeting. Will send draft Parent and Family Engagement Plan and Parent/Student Compact.

- **Title I-** Dr. McNeil discussed the parental involvement allocation. Dr. Barnes made a motion to approve the purchase of ACT/SAT prep books for students, seconded by Ms. Errianna Quallo. Motion approved.
- **Teacher Storage and Substitutes-** Dr. Barnes explained that all schools are facing challenges. Currently trying to hire two science teachers and a Spanish teacher.

Advisory Council Reports

District Advisory Council (DAC) Report

- Ms. Wells and Mr. Thomas provided DAC Report. Superintendent Hanna discussed testing and ESR3 funds. He discussed the legislative priorities for the District and Parent's First bill. Received an update from SDAC on the activities of each high school. Policy Reviews of the LCS Student/Parent Rights; Student Suicide Prevention, Awareness, and Screening; and School Safety and Security.

Title I Advisory Council (TAC) Report

- No Report

New Business/Announcements

- No New Business/Announcements

Next Meeting

The next meeting has been tentatively set for March 15, 2022. May have to change the day because of Spring Break.

Adjourn

Motioned for adjournment of the meeting -- motion seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 7:14pm.