

Walhalla High School  
School Improvement Council  
Meeting of Minutes  
April 10th, 2018

I. Welcome

**In attendance were:** Principal Steve Garrett, Amanda Gladys, T Jason Moss, Amanda Harris, Kathleen Lynch, Raul Chavez, Michelle Deem, Esther Phillips, Brian Ridsen, Jennifer Crawford, Annette Orr, Carrie Dunton, Alicia Keys, Lorilei Swanson, Olivia Timms, Lori McLachlan, Jessica Duke, Larua Estes, Rachel Twitty, Cooper Timms, Meredith Cobb, Maddie McLachlan, Carter McInnis and Tricia Burgess

**Special Guest:** Our current 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year, Mr. T. Jason Moss introduced the 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year, Kathleen Lynch.

- a. Appoint time keeper for meeting **Thank you Olivia Timms**
- b. Sign in – **A sign in sheet was passed around**
- c. Light Breakfast -**Thank you Mr. Garrett**

II. Approve March Minutes – Tricia Burgess

- **March minutes sent out to members by email, minutes were approved**

III. Student Committee Report

- **4 or 5 student nominations were received for 2018-19 members. Requesting an extension for nominations through April 16th.**
- **Nature Trail event had over 40 volunteers and exceeded work goals for the day. Students are considering another volunteer day to clear the second half of the trail.**
- **Approximately \$5,000 raised at the 5K fundraising event for Maggie Wells.**

IV. Student and Teacher Comments

- **Currently working on Prom scheduled April 28th at the Lighthouse Restaurant**
- **Mrs. Amanda Harris will be the Media Specialist next year**

V. Co-Chair Report- Lorilei Swanson & Jessica Duke **Report Attached**

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Communication **Report Attached**
- b. Wellness
  - **Amanda reported that workday went well, 40-50 people attended**
  - **Bees are doing well**
- c. Teacher Appreciation **Report Attached**
  - **Winners of April Teacher Appreciation gifts announced**

- **Spring Basket: Sonya Cote**
- **BBQ tickets raffle: John Fallon**
- **Hanging basket gift certificate: Kayla Broome**

- d. Parent/Student Engagement **Report Attached**
- e. Data Collection **Report Attached**
- f. Riley Award **Discussed during Co-Chair Report**
- g. Recruitment, Retention, Elections **Report Attached**
- h. Report to the Parents - **Carrie, Dora, Erin and Lorilei are working together on this. Deadline is April 30th. Carrie will forward to Olivia for Spanish translation of the report.**
- i. Latino Outreach – **Working with local libraries and Oconee Academy to provide relevant workshops for parents. The committee is meeting today to partner with Dr. Raul Chavez to improve community outreach efforts.**

VII. Principal Report – Steve Garrett

- **We are coming close to end of school year and currently working on scheduling for next year.**
- **Chromebooks – will be turned in prior to Exams. Teachers have a plan to help students prepare for exams without Chromebooks. Exceptions will be made on an individual basis if students request it.**

VIII. Public Comment and Discussion

- **Discussed the possibility of a modified school calendar. Parents need to go to the School board meeting to share their concerns or their support for this calendar.**
- **Discussed Prom Promise and the idea of having designated drivers available for students who find themselves in an unsafe situation after prom. The school will do a Prom Promise presentation and research other ideas to promote safety through the school year.**

IX. Adjourn at 8:50

## SIC Co-Chair Report

Lorilei Swanson and Jessica Duke

April 2018

### Accomplishments:

- Power Point Presentation completed for SC SIC Annual Meeting
- Met with Mr. Garrett on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Reviewed Strategic Plan
- Draft goals, letter and strategic plan completed for the Report to the Parents
- Ten members attending SIC Annual meeting and WHS paid for registration fees

### Announcements:

- SC SIC Annual Meeting Date is Saturday, April 14th, 2018
- Final Parent Advisory Committee Meeting is April 18th, 2018 at noon at the District Office
- Committee Chairs please complete a report for the May meeting to summarize your accomplishments this year and make recommendations for next year

### To Do:

- Reach out to SICs in the Walhalla Area and offer our support and resources
- Practice presentation in preparation for SC SIC Annual Meeting

## Communication Committee

Jessica Duke - Chair

Joy Duncan, Melissa Dempsey, Laura Estes, Katherine Allen - Members

April 10, 2018 SIC Meeting

### Accomplishments

- Social Media Sites:
  - Facebook: [facebook.com/WHSSIC/](https://www.facebook.com/WHSSIC/)
  - Twitter: [@WHS\\_SIC](https://twitter.com/WHS_SIC)
  - Email: [WHSSIC@g.oconee.k12.sc.us](mailto:WHSSIC@g.oconee.k12.sc.us)
  - Website: [WHS SIC](http://www.whs-sic.com)
- SIC Meeting dates posted to social media.
- Ongoing news articles related to SIC accomplishments being published on SIC social media.
- Met with Mr. Garret and updated school's Facebook page.
- Worked with Riley Award Committee to assist in writing and submitting 2018 application.
- Promoted the SIC student led 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Snow Ball.
- Promoted the Grace's Closet Movie Night Fundraiser.
- Promoted the SIC Canvas for Parents event.
- Promoted the Holiday Dessert Day in appreciation of our teachers.

- Promoted WHS SIC being named to the SC-SIC Honor Roll.
- Submitted quotes to the paper for news story on the SC-SIC Honor Roll.
- Created a flyer for and promoted the upcoming Open House/SIC Family Focus Night.
- Holding discussion via email to map out the plan for the future newsletter.
- Advertised moving of SIC meeting dates.
- Assisted Riley Award Committee with documentation for level 2 of the 2018 application.
- Promoted WHS SIC being named to the SC-SIC top finalist.
- Promoted need for Spring Sports ticket gate workers.
- Promoted WHS SIC Nature Trail Work Day.
- Promoted WHS SIC Nomination forms.
- Assisted Riley Award Committee with PowerPoint for SC SIC presentation.

#### Future Actions:

- Regularly remind SIC members and teachers of the SIC social media presence and request information/events to post.
- Continue to promote the social media pages and remind all new SIC members to like, follow and share with their friends to increase followers.
- Help create flyers for and share any SIC events.
- Continue to hold discussions around potentially developing a quarterly or bi-yearly newsletter for parents in coordination with the school.

## The Wellness Committee

The Wellness Committee hosted a Volunteer Day Saturday, April 7 to improve and establish sections of the new WHS Nature Trail around the school.

We had more than 50 people in attendance and were able to improve sections of the trail from the beginning of the ravine all the way to the creek behind the baseball field.

Stephen Morrison, of MoreSun Custom Designs, brought timber and tools and worked with a group of students to build a bridge across the first creek, at the base of the ravine.

Elamon Barrett, from the Forest Service, brought a truckload of landscaping tools for people to use. The day was a huge success.

We would like to host another day, possibly this month, to further the completion of the trail.

# Teacher Appreciation Committee Report

**April 2018**

Members: Amanda Gladys, Annette Orr, Dora Leonard (Co-Chair), John Twitty Jr., Kristin Ambrose, Olivia Timms, Paul Holleran, Rachel Twitty (Co-Chair), Tricia Burgess

Current:

- Winners for two cookies and cocoa baskets and a Starbucks gift card were drawn at the March 13 meeting. Names of all faculty and staff were included in the drawing.
- At the April 10 meeting, we will draw names a gardening basket.

Upcoming:

- For Teacher Appreciation Week, we will host a Mexican food fest (May 4, due to testing). If you would like to help with this event, please contact Olivia Timms at [otimms@g.oconee.k12.sc.us](mailto:otimms@g.oconee.k12.sc.us).
- We will be putting together a summer fun basket (sunscreen, beach towel, book, etc.) for a drawing. If you are not a faculty/staff member, please donate an item or make a small donation.
- Just before the last day of school, we will put a note and treat in each teacher's mailbox. We will need help compiling and inserting these into teacher/staff mailboxes.

Other:

- We will be working to figure out a way to use social media for shout outs to teachers from students/parents. If you have any ideas or could help implement, contact a committee member.
- We want to recognize teachers on Awards Day (also Awards Day for underclassmen)

YOUR HELP NEEDED:

If you are not a teacher/staff member, please make a small donation (\$5-\$10) to help off-set expenses. Contact Dora Leonard at [DoraHL@aol.com](mailto:DoraHL@aol.com) or Annette Orr at [aborr@g.oconee.k12.sc.us](mailto:aborr@g.oconee.k12.sc.us).

# Elections Committee Report

**April 11th, 2018**

Accomplishments:

- Deadline extended to April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Two year parents and students must re-nominate themselves if they want to continue serving on SIC
- Please reach out to parents and students who you think may be interested in serving on SIC
- Student nominations and elections led by Jason Moss and student members
- Teacher nominations and elections led by Amanda Harris

To Do:

- Reach out to Walhalla Middle school for parent and student nominations
  - One call announcement Monday or Tuesday for announcing nominations
  - Contact nominees to get their background information and reflection responses
- Elections will be held April 23<sup>rd</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup>

## **Parent/Student Engagement Committee Report**

### **WHS SIC -- April 10, 2018**

- All of our attempted meetings during 2nd semester have been unsuccessful due to individuals' varying schedules.
- The committee is continuing to coordinate the Underclassmen Awards Night.
  - Departments have submitted their finalized award titles, and trophies will be ordered upon return from spring break.
  - Departments will be asked to submit names for their award winners shortly after spring break so invitations can be mailed.
  - The committee will meet to finalize arrangements for cake/punch, etc., on the actual awards night.

## **Data Collection Committee Report**

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Submitted by Lorilei Swanson and John Twitty

### **Accomplishments:**

156 surveys answered prior to Spring Break

Favorable results related to school climate

Opportunities for parent involvement could improve

### **To Do:**

One call announcement (with election announcement or separately)

Link to survey on WHS website

Close survey prior to final SIC meeting in May

Hold drawing for sports passes at May meeting