

Walhalla High School  
School Improvement Council  
Meeting Minutes  
August 29th, 2017

- I. Welcome and Introductions: In attendance were John Twitty Senior, John Twitty , Brij Patel, Rachel Twitty, Melissa Dempsey, Kiley Dempsey, Melinda Fischer, Haley McAnally Annette Orr, Trisha Burgess, Katherine Allen, Lorilei Swanson, Jessica Duke, Steve Garrett, Amanda Harris, Melinda Fischer, Jason Moss, Cooper Timms, JoAnne Heaton, Carter McInnis, Olivia Timms, Julie-ann Shannon, Alicia Keys, Dora Leonard, Emma Sauer, Lori McLachlin, Layla DaCosta, Elliot Wechter, Sydney Vickery, Amanda Gladys
- II. May 2017 Minutes: **Motioned and Unanimously Approved**
- III. SIC Roles and Responsibilities: Lorilei Swanson shared duties and responsibilities. Information was provided on how to obtain a copy of the SIC Handbook. **Available at <http://www.sic.sc.gov>**
- IV. SIC Meeting Schedule: Meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30am. **Motioned and Unanimously Approved**
- V. Nominations and Election Results: Co-Chair - Jessica Duke, Co-Chair- Lorilei Swanson, Vice Chair – Elliot Wechter, Secretary - Trisha Burgess **Motioned and Unanimously Approved**
- VI. Report to the Parents
  - a. Review of SIC Accomplishments: Report to the Parents was completed by the committee by April 17th, 2017 and distributed by May 8, 2017 in English and Spanish and outlines SIC activities and accomplishments. The Report to the Parents is aligned with the WHS Strategic Plan. **Report to the Parents will be posted on the Report to the Parents tab on the WHS website.**
  - b. Review of Committee Work: Chairs please be prepared to share a review of last year’s committee work and recommendations for this year at the next meeting. **Reports are expected from the following committees:**
    - i. Elections, Recruitment and Retention (combined)
    - ii. Report to the Parents (completed)
    - iii. Parent /Student Engagement and Parent Involvement Event Night (combined)
    - iv. Data Collection
    - v. Student Members
    - vi. Social Media (will become a role rather than a committee)
    - vii. Professional Development (will become Latino Outreach)
    - viii. Teacher Appreciation
    - ix. Family Event Night

- c. Data Collection: John Twitty shared information regarding a survey that was distributed to parents during IGP meetings. 120 people responded to the survey and parent satisfaction scores were high. There is a need for improved communication with parents regarding opportunities for involvement. **A copy of the survey results will be shared with SIC members.**
  - d. **New committees for 2017-2018: Communication, Wellness and Latino Outreach**
- VII. WHS Strategic Plan/Report Card/EOC parent survey: **Mr. Garrett will share a summary of each of these at the next meeting.** Mr. Garrett summarized the three main goals of the WHS Strategic Plan:
- a. Increasing graduation rate
  - b. Attaining 98% satisfaction with learning environment on parent surveys
  - c. Improving administrative and teacher quality through professional development
- VIII. Student & Teacher Comments:
- a. A student shared a concern regarding Power Hour due to limited seating availability and inadequate space for meeting. Mr. Garrett shared that this concern was being addressed.
  - b. Discussion of advantages and disadvantages of new block schedule. An advantage is lots of time to get homework done within the new schedule. A parent concern was the high amount of homework assignments with the new schedule. Mr. Garrett suggested that teachers monitor homework assignments and focus on quality over quantity.

Students and teachers dismissed for class at 8:40 AM.

- IX. Principal Report: Mr. Garrett reviewed the new Power Hour schedule.
- a. Teachers are available to help students during this time. Parents asked Mr. Garrett to make schedule available to students on their student drive.
  - b. RAZOR occurs once a week on Wednesday and will focus on Character Education and the reduction of cyberbullying.
  - c. Intramurals on Tuesdays and Fridays and will consist of organized tournaments.
  - d. The goal of Power Hour is to eliminate missing assignments. If assignments are missing the student is required to go to academic support lab during Power Hour.
  - e. **Grace's closet will now be open on Fridays to accommodate new Power Hour schedule.**
- X. Public Comment:
- a. Students are allowed to bring their charging cords for chrome books to school.
  - b. Parents are concerned that students are missing important announcements when they are off campus for educational activities. **Mr. Garrett will work with Razor teachers to develop a Canvas course for announcements and daily schedule.**
- XI. Adjourn: At 9:00 AM

