

Walhalla High School  
School Improvement Council Minutes  
October 12th, 2017

- I. Welcome **30 attendees: Steve Garrett, Amanda Gladys, T Jason Moss, Haley McAnally, Amanda Harris, Paul Holleran, Julie-ann Shannon, Michelle Deem, Esther Phillips, Annette Orr, Melinda Fischer, Joy Duncan, Melissa Dempsey, Alicia Keys, Lorilei Swanson, Katherine Allen, Olivia timms, Lori MacLachlan, Jessica Duke, Joann Heaton, Laura Estes, Brij Patel, Rachel Twitty, Cooper Timms, Meredith Cobb, Emma Sauer, Carter McInnis, Alex Galvez, Joe Rukat, and Tricia Burgess**
  - a. Appoint timekeeper for meeting - **Thank you Katherine Allen**
  - b. Welcome special guests and Sign in –**Thank you to our special guest, School Board Member, Joe Rukat for attending. Due to the new the Zoom Video Conferencing, Raul Chavez was also able to attend. Anyone can sign up for the free Zoom Video Conferencing.**
  - c. Light Breakfast - **Thank you Mr. Garrett**
- II. Approve September Minutes – Tricia Burgess  
**Draft Minutes were sent out by email on 9/15 and no revisions were submitted. Motion to approve minutes; Approved.**
- III. Community Highlight – Michelle Deem  
**Has lived in Walhalla for 20 years. Works at Joseph F Sullivan Center at Clemson University. Discussed in detail her job duties. She is Bilingual in Spanish and is a nurse practitioner. You may contact her at [mdeem@clemson.edu](mailto:mdeem@clemson.edu)**
- IV. Family Liaison Highlight – Olivia Timms and Esther Phillips  
**They attended a meeting to discuss ideas on how to improve communications with Hispanic families. Two ideas discussed: 1) have a “one call” that is translated in Spanish. and 2) have a parent meeting focusing only on Hispanic families to discuss student academics. Michelle Deem stated that she knows a WHS graduate that is now attending Clemson University that wants to be a mentor for Hispanic students.**
- V. PAC Report – Tricia Burgess  
**Michelle Grant discussed the Federal Programs including the breakdown of Title One Schools. Josh Sheppard discussed technology including Canvas District wide. Steve Hanvey asked parents opinions on new staggered start times, of which the majority was positive. He also emphasized the need for Bus Drivers for the District. Pay ranges from \$11.76-\$17.00 per hour. They plan on getting teachers/coaches to get their CDL to drive busses to activities. Rosetta Stone is in every Elementary School. Goal is to have every student graduate being bi-lingual.**

- VI. Co-Chair Report- Lorilei Swanson & Jessica Duke **See Attached Report**
- a. Membership Confirmation
  - b. Committee Announcement
  - c. Bylaws revision recommendation
  - d. SIC 2017-2018 event
    - Discussed ideas on a family event night. Including:**
      - **Miriam Johnson to speak on Love and Logic. We could ask her if she has a program on bullying.**
      - **Service dogs to help with a program on bullying and possibly work with Oconee Humane society.**
      - **Wellness event**
      - **A Parenting Fair. Include hosting different events in classrooms. This way parents can choose which event they want to participate in.**
      - **Walhalla United event.**
      - **It was suggested that we reinstate the Family Event Committee to plan an event.**
  - e. Comments on principal's presentation last month
  - f. Community Membership
    - Still looking for more community members. Recommended Lisa Knock from KOBA, Lori Whitman from solid waste department, Emily McMackin from Clemson Tutoring Center, and Terra Lavoie from Blossoming Soul.**
- VII. Committee Reports
- a. Students
    - Plans on holding a Semi-formal "SnowBall" Dance on Dec 2, 7:00-11:00. Tickets will cost \$10, but students can donate canned goods in lieu of money. Purpose of dance is to raise money for White Christmas. Looking for businesses to donate a tree and/or gift cards for raffle/auction and also looking for donations of Christmas decorations. Asking SIC members to volunteer in concession stand. Still looking for a DJ. Julie-ann from Grace's Closet volunteered to donate dresses and possibly offer hair and nail services for the event.**
  - b. Communication
    - Jessica reported WHS Facebook page is up and running. Parents can email SIC and we will get info out on our social media.**
    - As requested by the SIC, Cindy Burnette is hosting a meeting on Oct 24 at 6:00pm for juniors and their parents to help them prepare for their senior year and college. SIC will co-host the event by advertising and supplying refreshments**
  - c. Wellness
    - Working on Spring Project, Green Hogs. Things for us to look forward to: garden for bees to pollinate in, creating compost and more.**

**d. Data Collection – Joann Heaton – Report is attached**

- VIII. Student and Teacher Comments before dismissal  
**Litter free football at next home football game. KOBA and Solid Waste Department donated a banner. Will ask everyone to wear Green to support the effort. Ask Mr. Udell to have the band participate. Also, selling ribbons in honor of Breast Cancer awareness.**
- IX. Principal Report – Steve Garrett
- **Promoted our Graduation coaches, Kayla Broom and Miguel Resendiz and shared their duties and our appreciation for them.**
  - **Zoom app was a success but only last 1 hour**
  - **Make-a-Wish foundation raised over \$2000 in one week.**
  - **Suicide prevention week raised around \$2000 in one week.**
  - **Proud of students raising money for White Christmas**
  - **ICU DataBase - to encourage students to complete assignments**
  - **Tri County Tech offering more dual enrollments classes next year at Career Center that will accommodate our students.**
  - **Boeing will be at the school today**
  - **Rep Jeff Duncan will be in our US History classes to answer questions for students.**
  - **WSPA will be here next Wed to do spotlights on our school. Will come back on Friday morning starting at 5:00a.m. to interview students live. Possibly have a pep rally in the commons area with the band.**
  - **WHS football team is being showcased on WYFF game of the week this Friday at Seneca**
- X. Public Comment and Discussion
- XI. Adjourn **at 9:00**

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 SIC Meeting

Co-Chair Report- Lorilei Swanson & Jessica Duke

1. Committee Chair announcements
  - a. Wellness Chair: Melinda Fischer
  - b. Elections, Retention and Recruitment Chair: Melissa Dempsey
  - c. Latino Outreach Chair: not Confirmed
  - d. Data Committee Chair: Joann Heaton
  - e. Communication Chair: Jessica Duke
  - f. Riley Award Chair: Lorilei Swanson
  - g. Teacher Appreciation: Dora Leonard
  - h. Parent/Student Engagement Chair: Amanda Harris and Carter McInnis
  - i. Report to the Parents: Carrie Dunton
  - Please contact committee members ASAP to identify goals and steps for achieving goals
  - Contact Jessica and Lorilei or past chairs if you need assistance
2. Membership List
  - a. Please review and correct contact information on member list
  - b. School emails will be used for student members, please provide alternative email addresses if you don't check this email regularly.
  - c. Member list will be posted on school website and uploaded to SC SIC by November 15<sup>th</sup>.
3. Proposed Bylaws revision recommendation
  - a. Add Graduation Coach and Parent Liaison as Ex Officio members of SIC
  - b. Should we maintain Boosters Club and Band as Ex Officio
  - c. Please review bylaws and this will be voted on in the next meeting
4. SIC 2017-2018 event
  - a. Brainstorm ideas for SIC sponsored event(s) this year
  - b. Summarize last year's events: Kathy Whitmire and Myriam Torres
5. Comments on principal's presentation last month
  - a. Mr. Garrett please send power point presentation to SIC members
  - b. Questions, comments and discussion about presentation
  - c. Request second half of presentation be reviewed again in a future SIC meeting

October 12, 2017

## Data Committee Report

Each committee member was asked to give input.

- Special Education Students (self-contained population)
  1. Class participation beyond special education classes
  2. Extracurricular school activity involvement
  3. Extracurricular non-school activity involvement (not sure if this would be applicable to SIC but important topic for this population and addresses community involvement)
  4. General satisfaction with their school environment
  5. Transition to post-secondary life preparation
- Collect Data from Teachers (email will be sent)
- Collect Data from Students (meet with student SIC first, to get opinion of how to collect data from students)
- Create another Survey based on collected data from committee members.

We will have committee meet either in person or via email, which is ever convenient for the group.

Will update on progress at each SIC Meeting.