**DFA School Council Meeting- 9/7/2022 at 4:00PM**

Present- Jimmy Bower, Laura Irwin, Renee Kelly, Chris Melcher, Jeremy Miller, Tiffany Tatem, DH Zhang

Agenda:

1. Review and approve Minutes from 5/17/2022 meeting- approved 7/7
2. Council Members and Officers for 2022/2023 -
	1. New members were discussed, including Brook Foster and Ned Vaughn. Chris Melcher offered to reach out to Ned about serving. Given Laura Irwin, Chris Melcher and Almira Vazadarjova plan to rotate off the Council, finding an additional 2 parent members would be good.
	2. New officers agreeing to serve and being unanimously voted in were DH Zhange for President, and Jeremy Miller for Vice President. Both Chris Melcher and Laura Irwin agreed to attend the next meeting of the Council to help transition the new officers in. It was. The position of Secretary was not appointed at this meeting.
	3. Some discussion occurred around having Administration consider their biggest needs for the Council in the upcoming school year. This could be discussed at the next meeting.
3. Mandatory RCBOE training update-

The School Council training is for new members only, particularly parents and business members. The website is [www.rcboe.org/pag/8577#calendar16438/20220223/month](http://www.rcboe.org/pag/8577#calendar16438/20220223/month). The council will check with members at each meeting to ensure everyone goes through the training.

1. Support for new parents to DFA update-

This is a follow-up from discussions at our last 3 meetings.

1. DFA provided free tee-shirts to incoming 6th graders and had a “Buddy Reveal” with 10th graders. This was reported as going very well. The 10th graders seemed ready to support the 6th graders.
2. Renee Austin suggested colored ribbons or nametags for parents to wear at DFA events to more easily identify fellow parents in each grade. Discussion occurred around this, including handing out color coded tags with theatre tickets at the box office for parents to wear.
3. Connections with DFA in the community, particularly Augusta University (AU)-
	1. Dual Enrollment numbers for AU are down. Renee Kelly discussed that many DFA students are choosing Georgia Military College for the ease of scheduling.
	2. Some discussion occurred around ways DFA could engage students in college areas of study as well as careers. In the past, an Economics Professor at AU came to DFA to teach a class. This was very popular, and may be helpful to encourage students to enroll in AU.
	3. One area of deficit noted at DFA was Computer Science. Thoughts around this area included having DFA students tour the Cyber Center.
	4. Having AU Admissions come to DFA and provide information may also help increase interest.
	5. Set up tours for rising sophomores of the AU campus in anticipation of Dual Enrollment.
	6. Tim Sadenwasser is Director of the AU Honors College. Some discussion around connecting him with DFA Beta Club and thinking about some type of collaboration with DFA occurred.
	7. STEAMIFY is an AU College of Education competition for 4th-8th grade. Discussion occurred around having DFA middle school students get involved. Another competition are Hackathons, held in various places. This may be another good way for DFA students to get involved in STEAM programs.
	8. Have AU students get involved and help with Model UN and the Debate Team.
	9. Put photos of well known successful DFA graduates on a wall where students can see what has been accomplished after graduating.
	10. Consider a Parents Career Day to further engage parents and allow students to be introduced to various career choices.
4. Construction update- The Black Box Theatre construction is going out for bid, with plans to start construction spring, 2023.
5. Yearbook Ad update- Brief discussion occurred around whether School Council desired to purchase an ad in their year’s yearbook.
6. New business- The new officers will need to set up the next DFA Council Meeting. Some discussion about the end of October occurred, on a Tuesday or Wednesday.
7. The meeting was adjourned.