

School Council Minutes

(2nd of 4 Meetings)

(March 22, 2017)

Start: 2:00pm

Roll Call:

President/Parent: Erica Ware

Vice President: Dr. Brenda Cherokee Taylor

Secretary: Mary Tarrant

Teacher: Nadine Williams

Parent: Attondra O'Banner

School Improvement Plan Update & CCRPI:

Back in February, a mid-year school improvement plan review PowerPoint was created and presented to Superintendent Dr. Pringle. In this PowerPoint, we were able to show that we had dropped in CCRPI points, because we had received no points for developing learners in GAA. GAA is the Georgia Milestones equivalent for students in our large SPED population. As a result, three of our SPED classes were removed at the end of last year and students were sent back to their zoned schools. Then, at the beginning of this school year, Wilkinson Gardens started using an intervention program called i-Ready. This program provides tailored reading and math interventions to each student, while progress monitoring their growth at the same time. Since the implementation of the program we have noticed great gains in student growth:

Grade	August 2016	February 2017
5 th	11%	126%
4 th	4%	73%
3 rd	5%	56%
2 nd	13%	37%
1 st	1%	75%
K	1%	75%

Studies have also shown that there is a strong correlation between i-Ready growth rates to performance scores on end of grade assessments like Georgia Milestones. Between both changes, we hope to see improvement in our CCRPI scores this year.

Next year, we also might be able to get a few paraprofessionals to help our 2nd grade teachers. By adding paraprofessionals we will greatly reduce the number of kids per teacher in that overloaded grade level. We fewer students per teacher, we should see even greater changes in our achievement scores.

However, due to about 40% of our allocation funds being cut next year, we will probably lose a third grade teacher and class sizes will go up. Our Reading Specialist will also be cut and replaced with a paraprofessional in that position. We were able to keep our two EIP teachers, because their salaries are coming out of general education funds instead of Title I. We may have just enough money in our budgets to purchase Achieve 3000 software, which has been instrumental in supporting our students that are behind two and three grade levels. Most instructional coaches throughout the county have to go back into the classroom due to funding shortages, but we will probably be able to hold onto Mr. Wilson.

Also, there is news of a literacy center for 4th & 5th grade students. This will both help the students get the individualized education they need and help reduce class sizes in those grades at our school. The literacy center will pick which students will be able to go, so we should focus on developing our second and third graders next year.

Matt Johann is scheduled to come out to our school on Tuesday, April 11th from 9:30am – 1:00pm. He will be going over Georgia Milestones tips and tricks to help our 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders succeed on the upcoming assessments. The student professional learning will take place during teacher's planning times in the gym.

Beating the Odds:

Last, but certainly not least, we were one of only four schools that did better than we were supposed to (according to the state) on last year's Georgia Milestones. As a result, we were awarded with the label "Beating the Odds."

Our next meeting dates will be:

April 12th, 2017 @ 3:00pm

May 15th, 2017 @ 3:00pm

Adjourn: 3:00pm