

Attendees - Voting Members

Michelle Feeney
Dr. Torrence McKnight
Vic Williams
Juan Arezia
Barry Herrin
Katie Hilton
Jeanne Ortiz

Attendees - Other

Terri North
Kristin Morrissey
Dr. Jeff Bearden (virtual)
Dr. Cindy Salloum (virtual)

- I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Michelle Feeney at 7:32 am
- II. Welcome and Introductions
Michelle Feeney welcomed the members
- III. Approval of the Agenda
First motion to approve the agenda was made by Barry Herrin. Second motion: Vic Williams. All members in favor of approving the minutes.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes from December 11, 2020 meeting
First motion to approve the minutes was made by Vic Williams. Second motion: Barry Herrin. All members in favor of approving the minutes.
- V. Old Business
No old business was presented.
- VI. New Business
 - A. Discussion with Dr. Bearden and Mrs. Salloum regarding attributes & characteristics wanted in DeSana's New Principal
 1. Dr. Bearden hopes to have a nominee by February which is a quick timeline with a thorough process. The DMS LSC members introduced themselves and presented their feedback on qualities they hope to find in the new principal. Suggestions included: embraces, empowers, and equips students, understands individuality, genuine care, fosters a sense of community, owner of the process, a partner in each child's success, continuity of traditions, someone who believes each child is unique and

they are a young dragon and our job is to grow all of the young dragons, embraces our diverse school makeup, passion/heart, accountable, high standards, relational leader, approachable, visible, values social emotional learning, consistent, high and clear expectations, character, empathetic, welcoming, safety first, structured, equips children for their future, embraces individual child, vested in the community, work with other principals closely, partners with parents, recognizes that each child is important, fosters culture, "nobody feels like they are an outsider"

2. Dr. Bearden will combine our list with his which includes:
 - a) Great people skills - we are a relationship business - great communication skills in terms of listening
 - b) Capacity builder
 - c) Empathetic
 - d) Makes good decisions - not everything is black and white
 - e) High expectations
 - f) Trustworthy
 - g) Honest, ethical, team player, balance, high expectations, flexible,

B. Presentation of FCS Board of Education's Legislative Priorities for the 2021 GA Legislative Sessions by Kristin Morrissey

1. General Assembly starts Jan 11 (through approximately April 2)
2. Forsyth County Schools has a great line of communication/relationship with our delegation
3. FCS 2021 Legislative Priorities - added "expand capacity for virtual learning." Forsyth Virtual Academy (grades 9-12) has existed for many years and is geared for students who wanted to work outside the normal hours. Over the years, FCS has been working to expand FVA, but had to operate at warp speed in 2020 because of Covid.
4. Department of Education Legislative Priorities - the Georgia state school board and Forsyth County Schools have priorities that sometime overlap, whereas other times there are ideas on opposite ends of the spectrum,
5. FCS wants to provide state funding to decrease the school counselor ratio from 1:450 to 1:250 as nationally recommended, provide state funding for the salary, benefits, and training of one School Resource Officer per school in Georgia, increase the state funding for teacher salaries, and expand capacity for virtual learning.

C. DeSana Club Presentation - Math Club - tabled for next meeting

VII. Principal's Report

- A. Second semester numbers presented. From 1st to 2nd semester our total student population grew by 22 students (from 1059 to 1081). We have more hybrid kids semester 2 vs semester 1. The Current enrollment is 42% virtual, 58% face to face. Admin is trying to not go over 28 students per class. Contact tracing provides a high number of kids from the bus.
- B. Covid-19

1. In 2020 there were 27 students and 7 staff with positive Covid cases. In the two week period from December 7 to December 22, 2020 there were 19 student and 2 staff cases. (14/19 were 8th grade, 4/19 were 7th grade, 1/19 6th grade). On 12/21/2020 the district allowed for Sunday deep cleaning janitorial overtime. With all contact tracing 372 kids were quarantined for a period of time in those two weeks. Since we have been in school in 2021, Wednesday there were 4 student cases and 1 staff case in addition to 23 students and 2 staff with direct exposures from outside of school.
- C. We have a new nurse - Samantha Tilly who has hit the ground running. She has a background working with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. She is already a great asset to DMS.
- D. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 by Michelle. Juan seconded. All members were in favor.