

SAC Meeting Minutes
For
Gateway Charter High School

Meeting Date:

Members Present: Sara Abraham (principal), Kim Brady, Angela Higginbotham, Amber Jensen, Lisa Legiec, Janneth Vargas, Landy Voltaire Kelly Weeks

GCIS Members: Ruth Albright, Julia Borra, Stacey Burns, Lisa Legiec, Nicole Rodriguez

Welcomed Guests: Anna Mann, Cylenthia Mann, Rachel Legiec (student), Ivan Borra (student)

Topics Discussed, Tasks Assigned and Decisions Made:

Meeting opened at 3:30 p.m. Members were introduced and where they represent. All members signed in and meeting agenda were distributed.

Agenda Items:

* Election of Chairman Mrs. Brady was nominated and elected by unanimous votes as High school Chairperson. Mrs. Voltaire was nominated and elected by unanimous votes as High school secretary.

GCIS: Mrs. Borra was nominated and elected by unanimous votes as Middle school Chairperson. Mrs. Rodriguez was nominated and elected by unanimous votes as Middle school secretary.

*Student enrollment for Gateway Charter was discussed for Middle and High School. In middle school we have 838 students enrolled and in High school we have 720 students enrolled. It was mentioned that enrollment for high school was not at the expected number which was 825.

The school grades were mentioned, middle school did decrease in letter grade. This past school year they received a "B" and the high school still has not been released. Plans are in place for more teamwork improving the test scores and modeling positive teaching strategies.

* In guidance News, Ms. Higginbotham is our new guidance counselor. Ms. Higginbotham spoke about the senior class meeting that took place on September 6, 2013. Ms. Higginbotham reviewed graduation requirements and answered questions that students had pre-submitted. The students had an opportunity to review transcripts and ponder about what colleges they are considering attending after graduating high school. There is some college visits planned in the upcoming month. September 17, 2013 U.F. will be visiting during 7th period. Hodges and other local colleges will visit during lunch (10:20-11:45) October 2. FIU will be visiting October 4, 2013 (10:20-11:45). Other college visits/military visits to be scheduled very soon! (In contact with Iona College, Edison State College, Florida State University and the Army Recruiter). There will be a Red Ribbon event taking place October 21-29 relating to drugs and bullying.

A Parent Night will be taking place October 17, 2013 @ 6 -8p.m. Parents will be informed of the information available for colleges, possible scholarship opportunities, volunteer hours, FASFA and graduation requirements. Ms. Higginbotham will be in charge of G.I.V.E hours for all high school students. *Mrs. Jensen mentioned the **Curriculum Night** which will be held October 1, 2013 from 6-7 p.m. for middle school students. The high school will host their parent night October 2, 2013 from 6-7p.m. Parents will have an opportunity to shadow their student's classes for the evening.

The Cambridge program is being led by Mr. Kneeland.

Ms. Burns introduced the team leader for middle school L.A. She is working diligently working with the 8th grade to help increase the writing scores. All 6-8 grade L.A. teachers will be working together using the same method so the students are immersed in the same teaching style in L.A.

* Mrs. Abraham mentioned the upcoming Homecoming Event which is being coordinated by Ms. Eikelberger (our 10 grade advisor). The theme for homecoming this year is "Take Me Away" which will be held at Sanibel Harbour Resort from 7- 10 p.m. Tickets will be sold beginning Monday, September 16, 2013. Single tickets are \$40 and couple tickets are \$70. During homecoming week students will participate in spirit week which has a different activity and theme each day. There will be lunch games each day for the week which includes a friendly competition between classes.

***Athletic Dept for Middle and High School:** Mrs. Jensen discussed our fall sports taking place right now. There is football, cheerleading, volleyball and cross-country. The spring sports are currently in conditioning. An upcoming Booster (parent) club meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 9/12.

Middle School: girls and boys basketball had wins from their games Monday of this week! Congratulations!

* **Mrs. Weeks (Reading Specialist)** discussed the students who have been selected to participate in the National Honors Society. On September 16, 2013 flowers will be presented to the students who have been selected as participants. There will be fundraisers for the honors society.

Mrs. Weeks will be visiting classes in the coming weeks to target writing programs that will be implemented in the curriculum. She also mentioned the school wide reading challenge that was put in place for both middle and high school teachers and students. Middle school students will strive to read 50 books and high school students will strive to read 30 books. After reading a book students will be asked to write a brief synopsis detailing what they read. Student reading progress will be tracked and displayed in the school cafeteria. Teachers are all encouraged to participate.

* Mrs. Abraham mentioned the tracking goals for the classrooms and subjects. The school will be implementing Marzano's theory in hands on learning. This includes student data and progress being visible in the classroom. She mentioned teachers who have creative ways of encouraging students to meet the class goal. A couple teachers mentioned were Mr. Pennington who is has a cupcake war challenge between periods. Mrs. Vargas does fiestas with her students after each 9 weeks. She was also mentioned for having 100% success in AP Spanish exams! Congratulations!

* Mrs. Abraham & Mrs. Jensen mentioned the fundraisers that will be held for the science dept. in the high school for more lab equipment.

Mrs. Abraham also mentioned our positive support system being managed by Mr. Kukurugya for grades 6-12. Griffin coins will be given to any student caught doing the right thing. The prizes and prices are displayed on the 1st floor.

* **Mrs. Borra** mentioned safety for students in the drop off area of our school. The parents are dropping students off in the middle of the road which can cause safety issues. A solution for this problem is being put into consideration.

All business had been discussed and meeting was adjourned @ 4:22 p.m.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, November 6, 2012

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Place: Room 137