

Sullivan Middle IB

1825 Eden Terrace
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

School Improvement Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 18, 2018

5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

School Conference Room

Members Present:

Sullivan Middle School, School Improvement Council met this date at 5:15 p.m. with members present as follows: Kelly Scott, SIC President; Juan Roldan, School Principal; Holly Stuart teacher; Adam Salisbury, teacher; Terese Green-Thomas, parent; Laura Lawson, parent; Mona Letigio, SIC Secretary/parent; Joe Mosier, parent; Kristy Marler-Weiner, teacher; Dave Vawter, Community Member; Natisha Grandjean, parent; Gwendolyn Lindsey, Asst. Principal; and Alton Hyatt, parent.

Mrs. Kelly Scott called the meeting to order to discuss the following agenda:

1. Check In & Approval of August Minutes – Mrs. Kelly Scott
2. School News and Plans – Mr. Juan Roldan
 - a. School communication
 - b. School climate
 - c. Construction
 - d. IB awareness
 - e. Language immersion
 - f. Related arts
3. Discuss Revision of Student Dress Code – Mr. Juan Roldan
4. PTA Update – Mrs. Laura Lawson
5. Election Process – Mrs. Kelly Scott
6. Student Life Updates – Mr. Juan Roldan
 - a. School safety
 - b. Athletics
7. Adjourn

Check In & Approval of August Minutes – Mrs. Kelly Scott

There were only a few voting members present during the meeting that is why Mrs. Kelly just informed everyone if ever there are questions about the previous meeting minutes, just ask her about it.

School News and Plans – Mr. Juan Roldan

In connection with the impact of Hurricane Florence, the school was very lucky to have not been affected by it, but some Sullivan families have been impacted by the hurricane. The school and the community were in contact with these families and necessary help and support were provided.

With regards to curriculum and instruction, the teachers are working hard in aligning everything with the IB curriculum standards, as well as, with the State Standards. Teachers will undergo various IB trainings through online and/or go to other cities to be trained. This will be challenging in terms of expenses because IB training is the most expensive training that a teacher could have. The school is hoping to grow as Cherry Park students will be coming our way and at some point, language immersion will be very vibrant. IB and Language Immersion will co-exist beautifully as a school.

One faculty member is in on extended leave for a neuro-surgical procedure and will return sometime in October. A long-term sub is in place to cover this teacher's absence. New teachers & all teachers are doing a fantastic job. There are two teachers who are from other countries and arrived just at the start of the school year. Being in a new culture and teaching environment, they are still adjusting and learning. The school is very supportive with this transition that these particular new teachers are undertaking.

As far as grades and curriculum, parents should try not to be too concerned about grades because there have not been many grade opportunities so far this teaching period. For the first two weeks of school, teachers and students were working on building positive relationships. Knowing every child's stories will open some avenues to channel whatever it is that we want to facilitate or teach them. As the days go by, students will be expecting to have more homework and projects to do. These will populate grades to our Canvas for parents to view.

As part of IB awareness effort, Sullivan will hold an IB Parent Night for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Further details about this event will be communicated later on. Based from surveys conducted, it indicated that our community does not know have a good awareness of what IB means. It is essential to recognize and bring recognition to this type of powerful education.

School wide, students have started to have a conversation about Soaring to Service (SOS) which is a service component of IB. Students are asked to do community service that adds value to the community. Students will identify the need in our community and will be given tools to fill that need. Letting students and adults be authors of the content. The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are exploring the framework to best start the program, beginning with the 8th grade.

Starting Oct 1st, during enrichment time at the end of the day, time will be spent in Language Arts and Math enriching concepts in those areas for all students. Teachers of all subjects and of each grade level will be a part of the process, including Related Arts teachers coming alongside. Student data will be reviewed and used to address the needs. Plan is to look into creating in-house school wide benchmarks. One parent asked if the student is higher in one subject than the other, will they be doing extra work in both. Response from Mr. Roldan: Teaching teams to determine these details. If a student is extremely high performing in one area, then the lesser area will be a priority for that student. That said, the area that is high will also be stretched for this student to extend his/her learning in that area too. Community Member, Dave Vawter asked if "with this extra task of benchmarking in the school will something already assigned to teachers be taken away?" Response from Mr. Roldan: Not at this time, but perhaps. We will have to see how it goes keeping up with things that must be done, and prioritizing other tasks and responsibilities.

Agenda Action Item Discussion of Revising Dress Code-Mr. Roldan

Mr. Roldan asked the group to consider a revision of item number 6 of the current published dress code that states:

"Sweaters, crew neck and hooded sweatshirts of Sullivan Color (white, black, royal blue, navy, and grey) MAY BE WORN. They must be plain or have a Sullivan logo, and hoods MAY NOT be worn over the head.

Sweaters must be a solid color and can be a pullover or cardigan type, but must not be longer than the waist. A collared shirt must be visible underneath the sweatshirt and sweater. No cropped sweaters” .

SIC discussed and recommended as council that the Dress Code, item number 6, be amended to read:

“Sweaters, crew neck and hooded sweatshirts **of any solid color** MAY BE WORN. They must be plain or have a Sullivan logo, and hoods MAY NOT be worn over the head. Sweaters must be a solid color and can be a pullover or cardigan type, but must not be longer than the waist. A collared shirt must be visible underneath the sweatshirt and sweater. No cropped sweaters”

Mr. Roldan will follow through with this recommendation.

PTA Update to SIC -Laura Lawson.

Board elected and will be posted soon. PTA Membership drive ends Sept 28. Currently has 46 members. Mr. Roldan wants more. Talked about putting Membership forms in teachers' boxes with a note. Mr. Roldan will meet with the PTA to go over incentives. Chick-fil-A spirit day check isn't here yet but should be soon. Hickory Tavern is the next Spirit Day on November 12 then December 6 at Nishie G's on Mt Gallant. Jump A Thon: Oct 23 5-9pm at Adventure Air. Every student that raises at least \$25 gets to participate. Students raise pledge money to jump and be active for an hour. PTA is also looking for business sponsors for the event levels available from \$100 – \$1000 and starting at the \$250 level can have a logo on the event banner and the back of t-shirts. Laura will email Ruth more information that will be emailed to teachers.

SIC Election Process-Kelly Scott

Kelly Scott updated everyone on election process for SIC 2018-19 school year. See attached election memo for details. Nominations will be held 9/25 and 9/26. Elections will be held 9/28 – 10/1. Members elected will be named on 10/3.

Student Life updates were tabled until next SIC meeting as the meeting ran over a little past one hour mark.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 16 at 5:30 p.m. -6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.