



## ***Savannah Arts Academy School Council***

### ***Meeting Minutes***

January 11, 2017

#### **I. Call to order**

Julie Allen called to order the regular meeting of the School Council at 8:05 on January 11, 2017

#### **II. Roll call**

The following committee members were present: Julie Allen, Gif Lockley, Wendy Marshall, Peter Muller, Michael Nestor, Dan Snope, Jennifer Vacala, and Lisa Wilkes. Guests in attendance included were Ardis Wood, Brandon Tucker, Anna Belue, and Cindy Hicks.

#### **III. Consent Agenda**

There were no consent agenda items this month; the minutes from November meeting were approved electronically in November.

#### **IV. Open Issues**

- a) **ESPLOST II and III:** The roof is near completion; just waiting for the final inspection. The ESPLOST III project schedule was released from the school board; our projects landed in year 5. Thanks to Vanessa Kaigler who was instrumental in getting the school board to allocate additional funding to complete the windows using ESPLOST II money, rather than waiting for ESPLOST III funding.
- b) **Admissions:** Cindy Hicks updated the committee on the 2017-18-school admission process. It has begun and closes February 3rd. 278 applications have been received so far, with the number going up daily. Auditions, with judges from several states, are February 18. Any student not a current SCCPSS student sends the application to Woodville Tomkins for processing. Acceptance emails go out March 3rd, and parents/guardians have until March 31st to confirm their placement. The only admission standard that changed was the increase in SRI. Arts and PE grades are not included in overall GPA computation.

- c) **Accreditation:** Dr. Dawn Hadley updated the committee on the Advanced Ed (formerly SACS). This is a process happens every 5 years. The school does an internal self study, and then an external group assesses the school study in these 5 areas: 1) Purpose and Direction, 2) Governance and Leadership, 3) Teaching and Assessing for Learning, 4) Resources and Support Systems, and 5) Using Results for Continuous Improvement. Each group responsible for the individual standard grades themselves. It is really a stakeholder assessment of where SAA is and where we need to be in the future. A survey will be available to parents at the PTA meeting on January 17 for assistance in the internal evaluation. The site visit will be on March 28-29. About 2 months later, SAA will receive a written evaluation from Advanced Ed.
- d) **GMAS update:** In December 2016, the GMAS/Geometry portion was administered. SAA had the best results since inception of this test. Only 1 student did not pass, and this was due to a technical error. In Economics, only 5 students failed, but still passed the Economics class. Mr. Lockley and the SAA faculty were very pleased with the outcomes. As GMAS is still fairly new, the plan is to keep our scores in the upper quadrant. Our CCPI scores went from 91 to 86. Mr. Lockley informed the committee that he is taking a team of faculty and staff to Brookwood HS in Gwinnett County to study their STEAM pathways program and plan to get the Capstone program passed for SAA. Hopefully the Class of 2020/2021 will start cohort programs this next year. This cohort program is based on meeting four STEAM criteria: Academic Coursework (including fine arts); Extracurricular STEAM Clubs or Activities; Real World STEAM Connections; Field Study Experience and Capstone Project. The benefits of this program are that the student actually gets an AP seal for the Capstone pathway on their diploma. This will combine specialty program with AP pathways, and real world STEAM experience.
- e) **Community Update:** Mrs. Wood informed the committee on the election of the new Ardsley park president, Nick Palumbo. They are starting Music in the park program and would like to partner with SAA. She also stated that the neighborhood association would like to be involved in the fence project, when it happens.
- f) **Junk 2 Funk Update:** Our previous ticket company dropped SAA due to the complexities of the ticket issuance process. SAA is partnering with the Savannah Box Office for the 2017 show series. There will be no comp tickets this year. Student tickets are \$20 and \$25 for adults.

## V. New business

With there being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 am.

## Adjournment

Julie Allen adjourned the meeting at 8:39.

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Wilkes, Secretary