

Shuman School Council Meeting

January 19, 2017

Members in attendance:

Ms. Jenkins (Principal)

Ms. Jenner (Title I Teacher)

Mr. Datts (Parent and School Council President)

Ms. Mason (Parent)

I. Call to Order

- a. Ms. Jenkins called the meeting to order at 9:30am

II. Inspiration

- a. The inspirational poem was read by Ms. Jenner

III. Old Business:

- a. Our previous School Council meeting did not have the quorum met, therefore we could not take any action. The action we took will need to be ratified.

IV. New Business:

- a. We discussed the possibility of a career day at Shuman. Ms. Mason mentioned having parents either coming in to talk to our students about different professions and or having a day when students dressed up in "uniforms" to represent different professions. Ms. Mason will meet with MS. Lewis, Ms. Dudley and Ms. Winburn to further discuss ideas and get something set up to take place after the GMAS, potentially in the beginning of May.
- b. We also discussed the fact that our school provides a great mentoring program for our young men called 100 Black Men. On the 2nd Wed of each month, Mr. Williams and Ms. Dudley meet with a select group of boys to help mentor and build their self-esteem. We learned that they will be opening up bank accounts via Carver State and all funds put in will be matched. Each boy will need to have a minimum of \$10 in the bank to have this program set up. Ms. Jenkins (upon permission from each boys' parents) would like to donate \$10 to ensure their accounts can be established and they can participate in this rewarding program.
 - i. We would like to continue to build on our boys and will be looking for ways to reach more of them.
- c. Ms. Mason then asked if anything similar was set up for our girls and unfortunately Shuman does not have anything quite like 100 Black Men for our girls. We did have Girl Scouts here at our school for the past 5 years, but this year the lady in charge has had a family illness and has not been able to volunteer with our school.
 - i. Possible ideas were discussed to help our female students: Etiquette classes, Dress for Success, having sorority women come in and work with/mentor our girls (possibility of having Ms. Stevens from Gateway help us find some retired women to help us)

- d. In relation to programs to help mentor our students, we discussed the new enrichment program our school is offering after school. Our teachers are volunteering their time to teach fun classes such as chess, drama, gardening etc.

V. How is my School Progressing

- a. Ms. Jenkins informed us of Shuman's CCRPI score. The past three years we have continued to progress and our scores are going up, but we still have not made the necessary score of 60. Because we have fallen under a 60 the last three years, our school is now labeled as a "Failing School." Previously we were considered a "Focus School".
- b. What we have in place to help our students:
 - i. From 2:45 until 3:30 our school goes on "lock down" and our students participate in reading or math intervention stations/small groups. There are 2 teachers in each classroom to assist during this time.
 - ii. Ms. Jenkins has been meeting with the various grade levels, for example K and 1st grade teachers, and discussing ways to increase the rigor and have higher expectations for our students to help in preparation for the next grade level. Kinder and 1st grade students will have new sight word lists that include bigger and more difficult words.
 - iii. We also have in place "Intercession" which is where our teachers are able to focus on the skills and content areas necessary to do well on the GMAS and other tests for the end of the year. One of the main focuses in all subjects is to help our students understand how to write constructed responses. Our tests no longer include only multiple choice questions, now they have multiple questions where students will have to complete multiple parts to a question and explain their reasoning behind how they came to their conclusion/answer.
 - 1. Ms. Jenkins mentioned to our parents that perhaps they could mention to other parents and community members that we would love to have volunteers to come at different times throughout the day and help our students.
 - 2. Ms. Mason also brought up the idea that children learn well from other children best (sometimes). Perhaps we could implement some time during the day where our gifted students or older students could work with some of our younger students and read to them and work on some of the basic skills they need. This could be beneficial to both sets of students.
 - iv. To keep progressing next year, one additional thing we can focus on is Grammar. Both Ms. Jenkins and Ms. Mason brought this topic up and we all feel as though this will help our students in their writing and constructed responses as well.

VI. Closure:

- a. Our next meeting will be held in March
- b. We need to start considering a new PTA President, Treasure and VP. We will need to have elections to fill these positions.
- c. Ms. Jenkins ended our meeting at approximately 10:10am.