

Finch Elementary

Date: 10/24/2024

Time: 3:30

Location: Zoom

I. Call to order: 3:05

II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Dr. Tara Spencer	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Edwina Lawrence	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Kashon Caldwell	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Xiomara Baily	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Tayana Mcknight	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Erin Gore	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Tesia Germain	Present
Community Member	Ms. Adriana Sola	Present
Community Member		
Swing Seat	Dr. Regana Hill	Present
Student (High Schools)		

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: Dr. [Regana Hill](#) ; Seconded by: Ms.[Edwina Lawrence](#)

Members Approving: Ms. Erin Gore, Ms. Kashon Caldwell, Ms. Xiomara Bailey, Ms. Tayana McKnight, Ms. Tesia Germain

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

b. **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

Motion made by: Dr. [Regana Hill](#) Seconded by: Ms. [Tatyana McKnight](#)

Members Approving: Ms. Kashon Caldwell, Ms. Tesia Germain, Ms. Erin Gore, Ms. Edwina Lawrence

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

IV. Discussion Items

a. Strategic Plan Priorities Reviews

- i. Dr. Spencer discussed our overarching needs and the continuous improvement goals for this school year. In literacy, the goal is to grow by 3% and increase the number of students scoring in proficient and/or distinguish to 25%. In numeracy, the goal is to increase by 3% and increase the number of students scoring proficient and/or distinguish by 21%. Last, our attendance goal for our CCRPI percentage is to move from 68% to 72%.

Dr. Spencer showed the Go Team the current strategic plan. She continued sharing that the school's SMART goals have been in effect for past three years some of which have been met some that the school is still working to meet. She shared that her desire is for all members to know the SMART goals and the specific strategies that are used to meet the goals. Dr. Spencer stated that for math and literacy we are well on our way to meeting those goals. The goal for CCRPI was made before COVID with the other goals, so we are currently working toward them.

- ii. Dr. Spencer shared that every year we look at the priorities and make sure that there are strategies in place to meet those goals. She gave the GO Team a few minutes to look over the priorities and share if they agree with how the priorities are or discuss if any of the priorities need to be moved and give a rationale.
 1. Go Team member shared that priority 8 "creating a safe, nurturing, and caring culture for all students" should move up to the top four. The team member shared that students cannot focus on reading, math, and foundational skills when they do not feel safe, nurtured and cared for. A GO Team member shared their disagreement with changing priority 8. The member stated that the school does create a safe, nurturing, and caring environment because her child loves coming to school. Another member shared that the change is not something the school needs to work on, however it is a priority that need to be focused on in general. Dr. Spencer shared her thoughts that she agrees with the suggestion because of her leadership philosophy which is if you don't love on kids and staff members, the work won't get done. Priority 8 "creating a safe, nurturing, and caring culture for all students" has moved to priority 3.

2.

Another GO Team member shared that there should be an emphasis on incorporating more field experiences in STEAM for kids. This is due to students' interests in STEAM, working with different devices, and doing hands on experiments. The member also shared how the strategies are working towards the goals. For example, PBIS students are enjoying "Fun Friday and Super Fun Friday."

b. School Uniform:

- i. Dr. Spencer shared the Atlanta Public School uniform options and the district's dress code policy. She continued to share that if the GO Team decides to keep a uniform or make it an option then a uniform committee will need to be established. Dr. Spencer stated that she cannot impede student's instructional time if students do not follow the uniform rules. All discipline actions will take place when students are not receiving instruction or after school. Go Team members shared their feelings on why the uniform should be optional or only required. Dr. Spencer shared that if the GO Team chooses to go optional the uniform system should look like it did two years ago. Even though that was not her priority she started to incentivize students who did wear uniforms. GO Team members share their thoughts about having uniforms and their desire to be part of the uniform committee.

ii. Approval of motion to maintain or explore implementing an optional School Uniform?

Motion made by: Dr. [Regana Hill](#) Seconded by: Ms. [Xiomara Bailey](#)

Members Approving: Ms. Kashon Caldwell, Ms. Tesia Germain, Ms. Tatyana McKnight, Ms. Adriana Sola

Members Opposing: Ms. Erin Gore

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

iii. [School Advisor Uniform Committee](#)

1. GO Team chair goes on to address the need for a school advisory uniform committee and the duties of that committee. Dr. Spencer stated that she would like students to be part of the committee and for students to have a vote in the uniform.
2. Volunteers who would like to serve on the committee:
 - a. GO Team member: Dr. Regana Hill
 - b. GO Team member: Ms. Xiomara Bailey
 - c. GO Team member: Ms. Erin Gore
 - d. GO Team member: Ms. Kashon Caldwell

- e. Student volunteer: GO Team members and Dr. Spencer discussed what will be the requirements for students who want to be on the uniform committee. Students must be in grades 3-5, must have one boy and one girl from each grade.
- 3. The GO Team chair stated that the length of time for the uniform committee needs to be decided, the uniform committee would need to complete its work and bring full recommendations to the next GO Team meeting in the Spring semester. The chair asked GO Team members to discuss a termination date for the school uniform committee. GO Team member stated that with that the end of January 2025 would be a good time to bring the completed work and recommendation. Dr. Spencer agreed on the set date. She stated by February 27, 2025, we should be able to communicate to our families and community on what uniform will look like so they can prepare.
 - a. **Approval of Finch Elementary GO Team established a school uniform advisory committee with the goals and members outlines on the resolution.**
 - i. **The school uniform advisory committee will present its recommendation to the Go Team no later than February 27,2025.**

Motion made by: Dr.[Regana Hill](#) Seconded by: Ms.[Kashon Caldwell](#)

Members Approving: Ms. Tesia Germain, Ms. Tatyana McKnight, Ms. Adriana Sola, Ms. Edina Lawrence,

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

- 4. Establish the Chair of the School Uniform Committee
 - a. The GO Team Chair shares the duties of the school uniform committee chair.
 - i. Dr. Regana Hill is nominated for the School Uniform Committee chair and Dr. Hill accepted the roles.

V. Information Items

- a. **Information Item 2**
 - i. Security Grant Update

1. Dr. Spencer shared that she does not have any updates regarding the security grant. Dr. Spencer shared that the grant is not one area of money that she can pull from, however the grant is mixed into other money all together. She mentioned that she purchased classroom door window covers.

VI. Announcements

- a. Red Ribbon Week- October 28th – November 1st
- b. Title 1, APTT, STEAM Night: October 30th
- c. Mock Election: October 31st
- d. Picture Book Bowl Competition: November 1st
- e. Election Day: November 5th

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: Ms. **Kashon Caldwell**; Seconded by: Ms. **Edwina Lawrence**
Members Approving: Ms. Tesia Germain, Ms. Regana Hill, Ms. Erin Gore, Ms. Xiomara Bailey, Ms. Tatyana McKnight, Ms. Adriana Sola
Members Opposing: None
Members Abstaining: None
Motion Passes

ADJOURNED AT: 4:41 PM

Minutes Taken By: Ms. **Tesia Germain**

Position: **Secretary**

Date Approved: 11/21/24