

Sutton Middle School
Date: October 4th, 2022

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Sutton Middle School Northside Campus Media Center

- I.** Call to order: 5:32pm
- II.** Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Dominique Merriweather	Present
Parent/Guardian	Melissa Hanlon	Present
Parent/Guardian	Tania Wismer	Absent
Parent/Guardian	Shauna Achey	Present
Instructional Staff	De'Markius Lamar	Present
Instructional Staff	Antoine Edwards	Present
Instructional Staff	Shelly Riddle	Present
Community Member	John Olsen	Present
Community Member	Ana Bernardino-Flores	Present
Swing Seat	Colette Minnifield	Present
Student (High Schools)		

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items *(add items as needed)*

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: Olsen; Seconded by: Lamar
Members Approving: Hanlon, Achey, Lamar, Olsen, Edwards, Riddle, Flores, Minnifield
Members Opposing:
Members Abstaining:
Motion Passes
- b. **Approval of Previous Minutes: March 16, 2022** *List amendments to the minutes:*
Motion made by: Olsen; Seconded by: Edwards
Members Approving: Hanlon, Achey, Lamar, Olsen, Edwards, Riddle, Flores, Minnifield
Members Opposing:
Members Abstaining:
Motion Passes

- c. **Approval of Previous Minutes: September 6, 2022** *List amendments to the minutes:*

Motion made by: **Lamar**; Seconded by: **Edwards**

Members Approving: Hanlon, Achey, Lamar, Olsen, Edwards, Riddle, Flores, Minnifield

Members Opposing:

Members Abstaining:

Motion [Passes/Fails]

IV. Action Item 1: Motion: No motions

Motion made by: **[Insert Name]**; Seconded by: **[Insert Name]**

Members Approving:

Members Opposing:

Members Abstaining:

Motion [Passes/Fails]

V. Discussion Items

a. **Discussion Item 1: Report from Dress Code Advisory Committee**

- i. Tania Wismer absent, Shauna Achey presented committee findings
- ii. Reason to form a committee – dress code enforcement an issue brought up by female students to Dr. Merriweather; determined to bring to Go Team; create advisory committee; create survey; discuss changing dress code
- iii. Committee members – John Olsen, Shelly Riddle, Tania Wismer (chair)
- iv. Survey results – 2 surveys, 1 to parent/guardian/staff another to students
 1. 583 responses in total from parent/guardian/teacher/staff
 - a. 46% current dress code is unreasonable as-is
 - i. Concern about females being singled out
 - ii. Shorts another big concern
 - iii. Shoes also came up frequently
 - iv. Consistent enforcement
 - v. Staff training
 - b. 43% believed current dress code is reasonable as-is
 - i. Not leaning towards any one subgroup (parent, teacher)
 - ii. Consistent enforcement brought up
 - c. 10% no firm opinion
 2. 821 responses in total from students(over half of all students participated)
 - a. 22% 6th grade, 34% 7th grade, 44% 8th grade
 - b. 50% male, 47% female, 3% other

- c. Respondent racial breakdown representative of the school
 - 3. Need to review – current APS/current Sutton, other examples of dress codes
 - 4. John Olsen – theme includes unfair bias with females around shorts; backpacks and safety
 - 5. Dr. Merriweather – shorts is the big theme he’s hearing with students, female in particular; leggings with shirt coverage; Crocs are allowed
 - 6. Dress code items that are a safety issue – hoodies down; open toed shoes (tripping); backpacks – kids bring items they should not have, classroom gets crowded; same with bulky coats; teachers need to be able to navigate the classroom (lockers available for backpacks and jackets)
 - 7. Obscene language can remain as-is based on survey results
 - 8. Shorts – this is the biggest issue to address
 - 9. Headwear – this is a cultural or ethnicity issue, self-esteem issue
 - 10. Conversations with students – formalized training regardless of where we end up
 - 11. Include pictures as examples for training and dress code documentation with dress code rules
 - 12. Teacher feedback – grey area is difficult
 - 13. Dress code – need to fall into the district dress code, maybe with more clarification (review the differences between district and Sutton)
 - 14. Next steps – propose a new plan and discuss in next Go Team meeting; meet the week of the 17th as a team (meeting to be announced) (October 19th 5:30, Sutton Northside Campus media center)
- b. **Discussion Item 2: Family Engagement & Communications Advisory Committee**
- i. Committee not required
 - ii. FELT – Family Engagement Leadership Team exists already for Sutton
 - 1. One of the assistant principals is leading the team
 - 2. Next steps – someone from the Go Team should be added; informational report-out (Melissa Hanlon will participate)
 - 3. If in Strategic plan we have family engagement activities or report outs, can get access to their data
- VI. Information Items**
- a. **Principal’s Report – Dr. Merriweather**
- i. Currently using data to review strategic priorities and plan

- ii. Foster Academic Excellence – concerns (parents, teachers, students) around Amplify ELA and Math use in classrooms, too much screen time, Amplify is a district-wide push; feedback sent to the district
- iii. Continuous Improvement Plan – strengths/opportunities and challenges being examined; aligned with district, numeracy, whole child
 - 1. Attainable goals – 3% growth in ELA, math (proficient and above); 2023 – behavioral and emotional risk index reduced by 3%
 - 2. More conferences with students to reflect on performance (during instructional time based on needs + specific days set aside for conferences 1x-2x per month)
 - 3. Targeted instruction – identifying students, tracking them through assessments
 - 4. Will assess initiatives using MAP data
 - 5. SEL – bi-weekly care team meetings to review data for students, other action steps
- iv. MAP data
 - 1. Math and Reading results
 - a. Trend is that we are closing gaps, more students moving up in proficiency
 - b. We are ahead of other schools
 - c. Testing fatigue is an issue
 - d. Would like to celebrate those students who grow
 - 2. More kids in enrichment than intervention now
 - 3. 3 teacher leaders, one per grade level to do support for intervention (up from just one)
 - 4. Buses can be late and impact the intervention/enrichment participation – transportation issues have been escalated
 - 5. Next meeting - we will rank strategic priorities
- b. **Information Item 2 Assistant Principal Search**
 - i. First round interviews for 6th grade, 10/3 to fill Miss Cappelli's role – 2 interviews; 2 additional candidates interviewing 10/5
 - ii. Interim is in place until new AP brought on
 - iii. Reviewing from pool available
 - iv. New pool will be updated at end of year if we don't find a good fit
- c. **Information Item 3 Addition of New Staff**
 - i. Hired 3 non-instructional paraprofessionals to be present during transitions (bathrooms and hallways); 1 per grade level
 - ii. 1 starting 10/5; the other two when we get back from fall break

VII. Announcements

- a. Go Team training compliance; all up to date with two who need to do in-person training
- b. Dr. Merriweather
 - i. Sutton has best behavior data in the district
 - ii. Student conflict stemming from social media
 - iii. Family Engagement nights – hearing from parents on their concerns; mostly about transportation; bullying behavior
 - iv. No phone policy in the building
- c. Colette Minnifield
 - i. Anyone interested in IB parent liaison
 - ii. Building a team
- d. Next meeting – November 1st

VIII. Public Comment NO INDIVIDUALS SIGNED UP BY DEADLINE (24 hrs prior)

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Olsen](#); Seconded by: [Minnifield](#)

Members Approving: Hanlon, Achey, Lamar, Olsen, Edwards, Riddle, Flores, Minnifield

Members Opposing:

Members Abstaining:

Motion Passes

ADJOURNED AT 7:16PM

Minutes Taken By: [Melissa Hanlon](#)

Position: [Secretary](#)

Date Approved: [11.1.2022](#)