**Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** November 14, 2016

**Location:** Parent Center, Grady High School

**Attendees:** Blankenship, Bockman, Brandhorst, Bray, Brewer, Herrera, Kinard, Pilson, Styles

**Guests:** Noletha High, Atlanta Public Schools

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The meeting minutes from October 17, 2016 were properly approved (Bray – motion; Brandhorst – 2nd).
3. **Election of New Secretary:** Due to schedule constraints with the first elected Secretary, the team suggested electing a new Secretary. A motion was made (Brandhorst - motion; Bray - 2nd) to nominate Janet Kinard to replace Jeff Cramer as secretary. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Strategic Plan Approval:** The Grady Go Team reviewed the Strategic Plan drafted during the team’s work session. A few minor edits were made to wording to provide clarity and ensure consistency (see attached). A motion was made (Herrera) and properly seconded (Styles) to accept the Strategic Plan with the edits. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **Grady Cluster Advisory Team (CAT) Report:** Sharon Bray provided an update from the advisory team. Currently, the CAT is working to build out the cluster’s signature program. Because it is not a standard program (like IB or STEM), the cluster is having to define its own plan and is using the 21st Century Learning framework to do so. The cluster has worked to define key characteristics for the cluster and each school is now adapting those to their particular communities. The CAT established a subcommittee to investigate facilities and capacity issues cluster-wide. The Go Team discussed the upcoming city council annexation vote that is expected to bring additional families into the Grady cluster, although the final decision about school assignments for those students is the purview of the Superintendent. The CAT has requested a more defined process for future annexations including how the city and Atlanta Public Schools (APS) communicates about these changes and how APS makes decisions about where to assign and timeline for enrolling incoming students. The Go Team briefly discussed the need for APS to develop a more robust method for calculating school capacities and subsequent planning.
   1. **Establishment of a Go Team Facilities Committee:** The discussion regarding proper facilities planning reintroduced Grady’s need to address current and future facilities needs. The Go Team discussed ongoing issues with the school facilities and made the decision to establish a Facilities Committee. This committee is not the same as the planning committee that is expected to be established by Atlanta Public Schools to address the renovation and addition, although this group will provide support. A motion was made (Bray) and properly seconded (Herrera) to establish a Facilities Committee. The motion passed unanimously. Members will be identified by the Go Team’s representatives – John Brandhorst and Sharon Bray.
6. **Grady Principal Position - Info and Status:** The school district will be posting the Grady principal position in January for a nation-wide search process. APS will provide the initial candidate review. The Go Team will interview the final candidates and makes a recommendation to the Superintendent, who makes the final recommendation to the board for approval.
7. **New Business**

The teacher representatives to the Go Team expressed concerns that controls of certain school areas (e.g. arts budget, assessment schedule) are not within school purview and whether this can be changed through the cluster system.

* 1. **Arts Funding Structure -** The Go Team began a discussion of the current APS policy regarding distribution of funding for arts programs. All funding requests are currently approved through the central office and there is a delay in processing requisition forms, leading to issues within Grady’s Art Department of not having necessary class supplies. The Go Team briefly discussed how policy might be changed to allow school-level control of these budgets and the team’s role in pushing for this change.
  2. **Process for requesting waivers for School-based Solutions (SBS) -** The Go Team introduced a discussion regarding the process for waivers of policy and rules that currently govern the school. The Go Team can request waivers for SBS based on the Strategic Plan. This discussion will be continued in January.

1. **Public Comment:** None
2. **January meeting agenda items:** Possible agenda items for January’s meeting include the school budget, process for SBS waivers, and a data review particularly focused on AP offerings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

Submitted by:   
Janet Kinard, Go Team Secretary