**Maynard Jackson High School**

**Date: 30 September 2019**

**Time: 6:00 pm**

**Location: MJHS Media Center**

1. Call to Order ***@6:17pm***
2. Roll Call; Establish Quorum

**Quorum established by and Roll Call by Beth Wells**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Role** | **Name** *(or Vacant)* | **Present or Absent** |
| **Principal** | **Dr. Adam Danser** | **Present** |
| **Parent/Guardian** |  |  |
| **Parent/Guardian** | **Beth Wells** | **Present** |
| **Parent/Guardian** | **David Liburd** | **Present** |
| **Instructional Staff** | **Anthony DeCosta** | **Present** |
| **Instructional Staff** | **Denise King** | **Present** |
| **Instructional Staff** | **David Eberhart** | **Absent** |
| **Community Member** | **Ashley Rouse** | **Present** |
| **Community Member** | **Virgil Murray** | **Present** |
| **Swing Seat** | **Dr. Whittaker-Brown** | **Present** |
| **Student** *(High Schools)* | **Mayra Martinez** | **Present** |

1. Read Meeting Norms **Beth Wells read aloud the meeting norms.**
2. Public Comment **Anne Gelaude - Milestones section – Concerned about the number of students who performed in English and Math. What can we do to help improve the Milestones English and Math scores? Do we need volunteers to come in and help? Are there plans for interventions?**
3. Action Items
   1. Approval of Agenda

**Virgil Murray moves to approve the agenda. Beth Wells 2nds that motion.**

* 1. Approval of Previous Minutes

**Beth Wells moves to approve. Virgil Murray 2nds that motion.**

1. **Discussion Items**
   1. Substitute teachers / approved leave / unfilled teacher positions

**Dr. Danser – There is concern when teachers are out for an extended period of time. ADA is designed to protect employees jobs when they have to be absent for an extended period of time (approval via District). We then provide a long-term substitute. The challenge is**

**We did not enter the year with any vacancies.**

**Beth Wells – With FMLA, do we use the same pool of substitutes as we would for a day’s absence?**

**Dr. Danser – All substitutes come from the same pool. Maynard usually has a good pool of substitutes who are committed to using the lesson plans.**

**Mayra Martinez – Last year, lots of my fellow classmates usually don’t take substitutes seriously. However, IB students usually take it more seriously.**

**Mayra Martinez – Last year, another teacher at the school came in during another teacher’s absence. That was really helpful to her and her classmates.**

**Beth Wells – At what point can we say that we need to get a new hire for a teacher who is out for an extended period of time?**

**Dr. Danser – That is a human resources issue. Again, we try to find someone who has subject-area expertise. We usually reach out to other schools for help to ensure students don’t lose a tremendous amount of instructional time.**

* 1. Bicycle Pump Track at MJHS

**Beth Wells —Helping students learn to bike. More opportunities to play. Equalize playing field, bike not required. The Trust for Public Land has a partnership with APS. What will that mean? Cover liability issues. Michael Haliki could be a resource—SORBA, may help assess where to put Bike Pump Track.**

**Virgil Murray — Could attract students who don’t do traditional sports. Take advantage of the ground swell that Michael has created.**

**Dr. Whittaker-Brown – Will the public have 24-hour access to the track?**

**Beth Wells – It is her understanding that MJJ will be able to determine with Parks & Rec a time limit for track usage.**

**Dr. Danser – It is a great activity, but we have to look into liability issues. Maybe if the Beltline can place something near the school property as opposed to “on” the school property.**

**Beth Wells – Her understanding is that property is a ‘hot’ commodity in this area so using the school’s property for a bike track would be a good idea. We are figuring out ways we can put something together for the bike track.**

* 1. Fundraising Committee

**Beth Wells – There was some talk last year about different ways we can participate so our school can have additional funds.**

**Virgil – We should consider getting more money for school activities. I got a call about a reading program here at the school and need money for incentives for the students. The Foundation is very interested and help to provide some levels of support. However, this is a great opportunity for the GO Team to contribute (i.e. each member gives $20/each or some other amount). Wants to know if the GO Team is interested in matching funds or contributing to the Foundation’s donation for this reading club.**

**Beth Wells – If we give money, what pot of money does it go into? Who oversees it?**

**Dr. Danser – All of the money goes into a bank account for the school. We, the school, usually will write a check for the activity.**

**Beth Wells – Whatever fundraising we do, we have to be careful to have a secure and proper place to go. As us raising money, we have to be clear where it is going and it has to be recorded.**

**Virgil Murray– We need to decide if we want to take on the reading project or look ask Dr. Danser what other projects or activities that would need our support.**

**Ashley Rouse - One large thing that could be a big impact on the whole school.**

**Beth Wells – Family Engagement Committee may be a better fundraiser to support because we can also get the District involved (things to help students how to study better, etc.)**

**Virgil Murray - I think we need to have a meeting to come up with a plan and**

**Ashley Rouse – Why don’t we send out a survey to determine what is of most interest in the school? Since there is no one taking inventory of all that’s happening (fundraising) in the school.**

**Virgil Murray – We should know the big picture, but we can focus our attention on what we want to do.**

**Beth Wells – Virgil will come up with a time for the committee meeting. We can put it on the GO Team webpage.**

**Virgil Murray – Can work with 3 to 5 people to keep the planning of this to a manageable size. He will figure out a time for fundraising planning. He wants to schedule the meeting now. The meeting date is: Wednesday, Oct. 9th at 7pm at Manny’s the address: 580 Woodward Ave SE, Atlanta, GA 30312.**

1. **Information Items**
   1. Principal’s Report/Data Report

**Dr. Danser – Data Review. He went over data points. He presented a ppp for data review.**

**-IB MYP Authorized with partner King Middle School.**

**-First participation in Quiz Bowl that past weekend**

**-MHJHS Marching Band – 1st Place in Band Competition at East ATL Strut**

**-We will drop a lot of data points. There are some data that is still embargo, so he can’t share all data points.**

**- There many aren’t many comparable schools to us in the district. The Challenge Index tracks students’ expected performance for students’ economically disadvantaged.**

**-We perform better than expected for economically disadvantaged.**

**-We performed higher than Grady HS with our SWD population.**

**-Our 4-year graduation rate dropped about 1.2%**

**-Our 5-year graduation rate increased. Graduation starts in the co-hort. Any student who starts with us in their 9th grade year, then they count in our graduation rate unless they transfer to another school.**

**-We have been working to make contact with students who left our school but are still counted in their cohort. 256/306 = 83.7%**

**-Our Year 5 Graduation rate is about 89%.**

**- Virgil – Do you know what school is graduating more students?**

**-Mr. DeCosta – We meet with the parents and the students to look at the Data and students agree with the plan we worked out for us and for them. There are issues with contacting parents. GEDs don’t count for us. Last year’s cohort was interesting. There were students who were**

**Dr. Danser showed us the number of students who graduated out of the school’s graduating class population from APS Graphs. We will be the 3rd largest high school in APS. If students don’t make it in 5 years, we usually**

**The challenge is when students withdraw and don’t go somewhere else.**

**-Dr. Danser – Graduation rates among Black improved to 84.8%, Hispanic decreased, as well as the White population decreased to 77.4%.**

**- Dr. Danser – The District has shifted from focusing on moving Beginning and Developing students to focusing on moving more students to Proficient and Distinguished. Our SWD students are performing near the same level at other schools. It is a focus to make sure a co-teacher relationships are maximized for top student proficiency.**

**There has been growth in 9th Grade ELA, American Literature, and Algebra. Biology is a point of concern. We didn’t offer Physical Science last year. US History plateaued. 9th ELA, American Lit, & Algebra increased the Proficiency & Distinguished rate. We did increase in all English and Math Milestones subjects.**

**-We communicate with all 3 feeder schools to see how we can support schools.**

**-Our pass rates on the CTAE pass rates on the End of Pathway Assessments rose 9.7%.**

**-If a student does one year of the pathway and then they drop out, then do they count in our numbers? Dr. Danser – The pass/fail are only the completers.**

**-Dr. Danser – The End of Pathway tests tend to be more difficult to pass than the Milestones.**

**- Dr. Whittaker-Brown – How is the test scored? What kind of test-taking strategies can we teach students to help increase their pass rate?**

**-Dr. Danser –**

**-Beth Wells – If students don’t get industry certification this year, can students go back to get it?**

**-DeCosta – If students finish the 3 years then and they don’t pass the test**

**-Dr. Danser – AP and IB don’t typically like each other. The IB evaluators keep asking why we, MJJ, offer AP. It will soon come up as a recommendation to get rid of AP classes.**

**Mayra Martinez – It would depend on the teacher. Students would focus on grades**

**-Dr. Danser – How do we build in a desire for students to finish to the end? Taking IB tests and AP tests more seriously. Talking with parents and students.**

**- Dr. Danser – There are data points he can’t share because of embargoed data. That information will be shared once the data is available.**

**-Dr. Whittaker-Brown – Teachers generally we are communicating that we are here for academic success (we are here to support and). We have established high standards for all of our students. We are going to keep doing what we are doing. We are removing the label.**

**-Mr. DeCosta – A lot of students are not afforded the opportunity to increase.**

**-Virgil – Can we have some kind of communication on our website to communicate that honors and IB are open for all students.**

**-Ashley – We may need to have communication to clarify the process for Gifted Testing.**

**-Beth Wells – How do we make it clear to parents that they too can recommend their children for gifted testing?**

**-Dr. Danser – We earn more funding for gifted students.**

**-Virgil – How do kids get into the different tracks? Let’s figure out a way.**

**-Beth Wells – It may be a good idea to go through the Parent Committee.**

**-Dr. Whittaker-Brown –**

**-Colton’s mom ANCS counselor needs to learn how to schedule students.**

**-Beth Wells – We need to put on the agenda for next time to let each student know that they are invited into the class.**

**-Dr. Danser – He wants to put on the agenda for next time is the conflict that is going on in our community. This community has to come to grips with the issues surrounding race. We have to address it with an outside mediator. We have to keep that on the forefront throughout the school. We have to be able to model discourse that is productive similar to what we did tonight.**

**-Beth Wells – She’s looked into Drew’s program that brought in a theatre group that helps with facing issues of race and socio economic disparity and unity.**

**Virgil – There needs to be some mediation. He knows some resources that may be able to help (UGA Conflict Resolution).**

1. **Announcements – TBD  
   Virgil – The MJ Youth Foundation is partnering with the school to target juniors and seniors. Starting tomorrow. Students learn info about the school from Admissions officers. First four: George Washington University, Vanderbilt (Oct. 2nd @ 6:30pm), Occidental College Los Angeles (Oct. 10th), Oct. 16th University of Chicago. Communication is going out via email. Attendance is capped. It’s a 6pm – 7:30pm in the Media Center. It is not a college fair. For students interested in those select schools. Talking with Ms. Wilson about doing something for our general education students as well.**

**-Dr. Danser – Is there a way to have those sessions recorded?**

**-Virgil – That’s a good idea. Also, the University of Miami would like to do something for the larger student body.**

1. **Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned by Virgil and seconded by Virgil.**