

J. Graham Brown School
SBDM Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2016

In attendance: Angela Parsons, Shawn Wilson, Liz Byron, Amy Thornton, Elizabeth Bricking, Ashley Chesman, Elisa Pitmon, Pam Willison, Sam Graber, and Candice Luijk.

Missing: Lisa Billings, Neysa Jones

Guests: Paul Robinson, Jane Kraemer, Eddie Weaver

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM.

Dr. Parsons distributed the meeting's agenda. The council reviewed the agenda. Dr. Parsons recommended adding the testing schedule to planning. Ms. Luijk recommended adding a parent concern which had been emailed as a new business item. Ms. Thornton moved to approve the agenda with both revisions, and Ms. Pitmon seconded. The agenda was approved by consensus.

Dr. Parsons distributed copies of the minutes from the March 8, 2016 meeting. The council reviewed the minutes. Ms. Chesman moved to approve the minutes without changes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pitmon. The minutes were approved by consensus.

Dr. Parsons presented the council with a good news report.

- ARTesania de Brown was well attended, and we were on Wave 3 News.
- In the Kentucky Science and Engineering Fair, Mariam Prieto-Perez won 3rd place in Environmental Engineering. Julie Nguyen won 1st place in Behavioral Science, 1st place in Psychology, and finished 5th in Best of Show. Julie qualified for the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona this May with all expenses paid. She also won free tuition to any in-state public university for four years along with a \$6000 yearly stipend. There is a Courier-Journal article.
- In the Louisville Regional Science Fair, Thomas Komp received the Delta Kappa Gamma Aspiring Young Scientist award.
- In the Elementary Mayor's Cup, our problem solving team was 1st place and we finished 2nd overall. We also had the following students place in written events:
 - 1st place Mathematics - E. J.
 - 1st place Language Arts - Kristina Nguyen
 - 2nd place English Composition - Charlotte Meeley
- Chantasia Brown and Mahaleta Abate were Carter G. Woodson Award winners. Both are 11th graders and received the Carter G. Woodson award from Berea College.
- Blake Dawson earned over \$1 million in scholarships.
- Savannah Cunningham was accepted into the Commonwealth Honors Academy at Murray State this summer and will earn 6 college credits. She can also earn more credits during her senior year online.
- Katie Rogers won the regional level and state level of the George S. and Stella Knight Essay Contest and now advances to nationals.

- George Rogers Clark Meet - John Kolb won the shot put and discus events and set meet records in the George Rogers Clark Heavy Metal Meet & Lenny Lyles Meet. He also set the state record in shot put during the GRCHM Meet. He set a meet record in the discus and won the LL Meet.
- Sunny Podbelsek won the Black Acre Conservatory Little Sprouts Contest, and the character she designed will be featured in future publications.
- Angela won the online voting and had her photoshoot/interview last week for Today's Woman Most Admired Woman in Education. The story will be in the June issue.
- Ava Dillow has started the Junior PGA tour events. She has come in first in her first two tournaments, and has a third coming up this weekend.
- Adia Elam and Niara Snowden, both 6th graders were selected to present artwork to the Governor and his wife and family scholar house in the Arts Advocacy Program.
- Rowan Kenning was recognized as a National Merit Semi-Finalist.

Dr. Parsons invited public comments.

Paul Robinson spoke to the council regarding staffing changes being implemented in the music program, specifically he stated he was concerned that a music teacher was being cut. He stated that he had read the bylaws and they require adequate communication with and feedback from the school community. He believed that the staffing change was not adequately communicated. He stated that he read through the February SBDM minutes and did not find that there many details about the staffing change. He wants to know why the position was being cut and why it was not made known. He also requested the issue be brought back up for discussion.

Jane Kraemer introduced herself to the council. She was observing the meeting but did not comments for the council.

Mr. Wilson reviewed elementary cycle three proficiency data. He noted that 3rd grade reading has been outperforming other groups and has done well in each cycle. The *Go Math!* sequencing has skewed the proficiency data, as it is not sequenced the same as the district curriculum map, but 70% of 3rd graders still scored proficient and distinguished (P&D). In 4th grade, science scores were especially strong, with 96% P&D. In 5th grade, there has been improvement in social studies, but the *Go Math!* sequencing has been a problem. In math, 79% of 5th graders were P&D. In math, fraction have proven challenging for many of our 4th and 5th graders. Next year, most elementary grades will use *Eureka Math*, also known as *EngageNY*, so that can help with sequencing and student understanding.

Mr. Garrett reviewed middle school cycle three proficiency data. He noted that there had been significant drops in reading and math, and a drop in social studies. In 2015, cycle 3 scores were considerably higher than the previous cycles in math and social studies, which created much of the dissonance between 2015 and 2016 scores in those subjects. In math, 7th grade math scores saw the most significant decrease over 2015. This was an expected drop, as this particular class has been previously identified as being deficient in specific math skills that would delay their progress. Interventions have previously been put in place to address these concerns. Science scores saw an increase in P&D.

Dr. Parsons reviewed the high school cycle three proficiency data. She noted P&D in Biology scores jumped 12%, and gap students outperformed the general population. U.S. History nearly doubled in P&D from last year. A college readiness report had been prepared by Ms. Willison and Ms. Robin Cash. The report showed improvement in every area. It was stated that 16 students are only one point away from being college ready. It was also noted that this year's much larger junior class has fewer students who are not college ready than last year's smaller class at this point. The school has scheduled a summer boot camp for juniors who did not meet benchmarks. It will take place over five days leading up to the June ACT. Math instruction will be led by Mr. Gray and English/Reading instruction will be provided by Ms. Jones. In the senior class, only one student has not met the benchmarks to qualify as college ready.

Dr. Parsons reviewed the calendar of upcoming important dates/events with the council.

Upcoming Dates:

- PTSA Meeting – April 12th
- PTSA Laser Blaze – April 19th
- Alumni Association Meeting – April 21st
- Pee Wee Prom (K-5 and parents) – April 22nd
- Decades Dance (6-12) – April 22nd
- Elementary Strings Recital – April 28th
- AP Testing – May 2nd – 19th
- EOC Testing - May
- Alumni Association Career Day – May 4th
- Lock-In – May 5th
- KPREP Testing – May 9th – 13th
- MS/HS Orchestra Concert – May 10th

Dr. Parsons gave a report from the Curriculum and Instruction Committee. The committee reviewed the amendments to the Writing Policy and has submitted it to the council for consideration and approval.

Dr. Parson addressed the review of policies with the council. She stated that after the meeting's review, there will only be one policy left to revise to be in compliance.

The council conducted a third reading of the *Travel Policy*. Minor edits were discussed. Mr. Graber moved to approve the policy with revisions. Ms. Byron seconded the motion. The policy was approved by consensus.

The council conducted a second reading of the *Extra Curricular Programs Policy*. Ms. Bricking moved to approve the policy. Ms. Luijk seconded the motion. The policy was approved by consensus.

The council conducted a second reading of the *Instructional Practices Policy*. The council discussed edits for the policy. Ms. Willison moved to approve the revised policy. Ms. Thornton seconded the motion. The policy was approved by consensus.

The council conducted a second reading of the *Conflict Resolution Protocol Policy*. Ms. Pitmon moved to approve the policy. Ms. Chesman seconded the motion. The policy was approved by consensus.

The council conducted a first reading of the *Writing Policy*. The council discussed revisions for the policy.

The council conducted a first reading of the *Personal Telecommunications and Electronic Media Devices Policy*. The council discussed adding the procedures to the policy.

The council conducted a first reading of the *Parent Involvement Policy*. The council discussed getting further feedback and suggested revisions on the policy from the Safety and School Climate Committee. Ms. Willison moved to refer the policy to the committee for revisions. Ms. Bricking seconded the motion. The policy was referred to the committee by consensus.

The council conducted a first reading of the *Student and Family Support Services Policy*. The council discussed adding the procedures to the policy.

The council discussed a parent concern that had been emailed to council members. The parent expressed concern that the music staff position that had been overstaffed and the consideration of a plant operator position had not been handled well or even correctly. Mr. Graber noted that it is required that council be consulted on such issues, and the council was consulted. Dr. Parsons explained that the overstaffing of the music teacher was in response to two of the music teachers not having full instructional schedules; this has caused morale issues with staff. The decision was made by Dr. Parsons, based on scheduling needs and student demand for courses and programs. Additionally, as other schools were facing budget reductions, it was difficult to justify keeping both music positions, if one is underutilized. Dr. Parsons stated she would notify the parent that SBDM had discussed the issue.

Mr. Graber moved to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Chesman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM.