

# THREE OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL (TOMS)

School Advisory Council (SAC) Minutes

April 26, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

**Members and Guests Present:** Carolyn Fischer, Mary Stead, Bob Scoppettuolo, Amy Simeone, Lindsay Campbell, Carol Mount, Trent Brown, Kevin Mullings, Lillian Rossi, Belinda Huber, Kathy Popple, Jason Laux, Rick Barta, and Mike Carson

**Review of Minutes:** The minutes were read and approved as corrected. Motion was made by Kelly Lavis to accept the minutes with a second by Mary Stead.

**Administrative Update:** Mr. Carson provided the administrative update. Enrollment for next year is now at 1048, which is about 50 more students than this year. There will be 49 gifted sixth grade students coming to TOMS next year, along with an unknown number of part time gifted sixth grade students. There are currently 139 sixth grade students on a waiting list for a seat next year. Next year, Three Oaks is planning to move forward with a robotics program. This implementation will start slow as the cost for the program is very expensive, therefore, the first year there only be two classes. Going forward Mr. Carson is hoping to add a high school credit class in technology. The administration is looking at different possibilities for high school credits such as Microsoft Bundle, Adobe Animation, and SPARK; and also looking at the possibility of have a different technology elective available at each grade level. In regards to school grades, schools receive additional points when they schedule students who score a three or higher into accelerated programs. The goal is for students to earn more high school elective credits. Mr. Carson also discussed the math academic plans and the need for students to be successful in pre-algebra to be successful in algebra and then ready for algebra II in high school. Another elective being considered is the Safe Serve certification which is a culinary class that includes health and sanitation in the curriculum.

The administration and science department are determined to provide for greater success for students in science. This year, eighth grade students have science class every day, with the hope is that this will result in improved scores on their End of Course (EOC) exams. The district curriculum office is also looking at what science subjects are being taught at each grade level and this will be adjusted over the next few years to align with how students are being tested. Next year students will have sixth grade science in sixth grade and comprehensive science in seventh and eighth. Eventually the new science texts will be earth science in sixth grade, life science in seventh grade, and physical science in eighth grade. This year students in seventh grade civics also have that class daily, as it is also an area that is currently scheduled for the state EOC exam. This testing requirement may change for next year. Mrs. Stead noted that the elementary teachers focus on reading and math skills and that may be the reason students fall behind in science and history.

**District Advisory Council (DAC) Report:** Dr. Lavis encouraged all parents, staff, and community members to attend the May DAC meeting and noted that Superintendent, Greg Adkins, will be the presenter. This will be a great time to discuss any areas of concern such as, curriculum, discipline, excessive testing, more funding, the ½ cent sales tax, growth and development at the schools, and capital outlay. *The minutes from the April DAC meeting may be found on the district website at [www.leeschools.net/district-advisory-council](http://www.leeschools.net/district-advisory-council).*

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**Business/Community/Parent/Teacher Comments:** Mr. Barta, sporting his new TOMS bowtie, complemented Carolyn Fischer and the Estero Historical Society for all the efforts that went into the annual Estero Essay contest and the recent awards dinner held at Three Oaks Middle School last week. Mrs. Fischer added that all of the finalists were in attendance and thanked the Three Oaks Middle student volunteers who helped serve at the event. Mrs. Fischer provided a list of the TOMS essay finalists and volunteers. This event was also sponsored by the Estero Chamber. Mrs. Fischer added that the essay contest is something these students will remember for a lifetime and that this is such a positive learning experience for students and their families. Catarina Caruso won first place, and other finalists were Ashli Dutan, Makayla Sawyer, Alexandra Polk, Kevin Smith and Diana Ramirez.

A parent commented that they would like to see a stronger STEM program next year. Mr. Carson added that he would like to see a teacher in charge of the STEM teams and then have a parent to work with each team. He is hoping to incorporate STEM and robotics into an after school science club and would also like to see the school more involved with the Odyssey of the Mind program.

Mrs. Rossi provided a list of the upcoming testing dates and encouraged families to attend the Drama Club Dinner and Talent Show on May 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be a Carrabba's dinner and silent auction at 5:30 p.m. and the talent show at 6:00 p.m. The dinner and talent show combined ticket is \$12.00. Silent Auction items are still needed. The drama club currently has several baskets to auction, including a cruise basket, spa basket, "night on the town", and golf. Three Oaks is hoping to see this event grow for next year.

Dr. Lavis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

The May SAC meeting will be held at the district office and will coincide with the May District Advisory Council (DAC) meeting on May 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room at the Lee County Public Education Center, 2855 Colonial Avenue, Fort Myers.

**School Website:**

<http://okm.leeschools.net>

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