



THREE OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL (TOMS)

School Advisory Council (SAC) Minutes

February 22, 2017



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

Members and Guests Present: Carolyn Fischer, Mary Stead, Terry Sutton, Christy Moore, Bob Scoppettuolo, Amy Simeone, Lindsay Campbell, Carol Mount, Trent Brown, Kevin Mullings, Lillian Rossi, Belinda Huber

Handouts: 2017 FSA Testing Schedule TOMS Student Uniform Dress Code

Review of Minutes: The minutes were read and approved. Motion was made by Bob Scoppettuolo to accept the minutes with a second by Kevin Mullings.

Administrative Update: Mrs. Huber provided the administrative update, beginning with congratulating Mr. Brown, on behalf of his daughter, Elise Brown. Elise recently won the Three Oaks Middle School spelling bee. Elise will be competing in the Regional Bee in Naples next month along with runner up Chloe McCrumb.

FSA Testing: The FSA writing test will be held on February 28th. Teachers and staff are working hard in the Language Arts and Reading programs to provide students with a refresher on writing essays, citing the text, grammar skills, and staying on topic. Mrs. Huber believes the students will do a great job. The sixth and seventh grade students will take a paper based test and the eighth graders will take a computer based test. A parent asked what measures they could take to improve their child's typing skills. Mrs. Rossi noted that the school is once again offering a semester long class in computer skills in sixth grade. There are additional typing resources for parents to work with their children over the summer, such as, Mavis Beacon. Our math department is also working with our students to prepare them for the upcoming tests. Our math teachers are among the best in Lee County, with many being recognized as State of Florida High Impact Teachers. Mrs. Huber commented that she felt confident about our students going into the testing season and is hoping that next year the testing season will take place over a shorter period of time. Letters were sent home with students providing the state testing rules; such as students having all electronic devices shut off and put away, including smart watches. It is important for parents to review the test rules with their children. A major classroom disruption can invalidate test scores for an entire class. Teachers are working to challenge students to increase their test score levels. Students are encouraged to take ownership of where they are and what they need to do to improve. The state test scores are expected back near the end of the school year.

Uniform Dress Code Review: The School Uniform Dress Code was reviewed. It was noted that Three Oaks Middle School is a **uniform school**, and not a dress code school; which is why the school is stricter than other schools in Lee County. Three Oaks Middle School is the **ONLY** uniform school in the South Zone of Lee County. There is vast amount of research that stresses the importance of having a strict dress code. Students are able to show their individuality through their personality and their talents. The uniform dress code also puts all students on the same playing field, and provides students with greater confidence. Students in a uniform school feel like they are part of a team and that they are all in this together. Uniform donations are accepted at the end of each school year and a clothes closet is available for needy families. This includes new shoes from the charitable organization, "Laces of Love".

Uniform Dress Code Review (continued): It was suggested that the school look into the possibility of purchasing jackets to make it easier for students to be in compliance with the dress code. For next year, the only addition to the dress code is that pants cannot be joggers with elastic at the ankle and that socks cannot have stripes. Clothing can have small logos. The administration reserves the right to access any new clothing or hair style fad to determine if it is acceptable.

The uniform dress code still needs to be reviewed by the school leadership team, but SAC members voted to accept the 2017-2018 dress code as presented. Kathy Popple made the motion to accept the dress code, Mary Stead seconded the motion. The motion carried.

School Improvement Plan Mid-Year Review: Mrs. Moore reviewed the school improvement plan progress. TOMS is meeting the school safety goal, with improved hallway supervision. TOMS has also seen a real improvement in the parent pick-up line in the afternoon, with the administration/golf cart monitoring of the traffic flow coming into the parking lot beginning at 3:30 daily. However, the number of student discipline referrals is not improving, but it is really with the same repeat offenders, which make up only about 10% of the student population. A new alternative to suspension program and a restorative justice program were implemented this year with new policies in place. TOMS recently added a Saturday School to address the behavior of students who are repeated offenders. This year, the Alternative Learning Center (ALC) has changed its name to Success Academy. In addition, they have changed the rules for students to be accepted into the alternative learning program, making it more difficult to send students. A community SAC member shared that it is still a concern that 10% of the student population is disrupting 90% of student learning; and wondered if there was anything the community can do to help the system work better. Mrs. Huber also shared that a resource room has also been added this year, so that students who are not focusing on their work can be sent to a separate classroom to complete their assignment after the first 20 minutes of instruction. The teachers are also meeting with their students before they enter the classroom and are communicating the expectations before class begins. Our intervention specialist is also meeting regularly with the inclusion students, has set up a point system rewards program, and works to improve the behavior for these children. It was Superintendent Adkin's goal to reduce out-of-school suspensions, but Three Oaks Middle students are still being pulled out of class when they are disruptive and referrals are still being issued.

District Advisory Council (DAC) Report: *The minutes from the February DAC meeting may be found on the district website at www.leeschools.net/district-advisory-council.*

Business/Community/Parent/Teacher Comments: A parent requested that a notice be sent out when the SAC minutes and monthly newsletter are posted to the school website.

For Estero Historical Society events, please visit their website at <http://esterohistoricalsociety.com/events/>

Mrs. Lindsay Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

March 22, 2017 PTO and SAC Members/Volunteer, Community, and Business Partner Breakfast – 8:30 a.m.

The May SAC meeting will be held at the district office and will coincide with the May District Advisory Council (DAC) meeting.



School Website:
<http://okm.leeschools.net>



District Website
<http://www.leeschools.net>

2016/2017 SAC Meeting Calendar

March 22, 2017 TOMS Media Center 8:30 a.m.
April 26, 2017 TOMS Media Center 8:30 a.m.



Please Note: The May SAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17, at 6:00 p.m. and will coincide with the DAC meeting, which meets in the Board Meeting Room at the Lee County Public Education Center, 2855 Colonial Avenue, Fort Myers.



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