

## **Eastside High School Advisory Council**

**February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

SAC President Elizabeth Washington called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

### **In attendance were:**

EHS: Principal Jeff Charbonnet; teachers María Zelaya, Sylvia Walker, Byers Hickmon, and Coral Antony

Parents: Mike Griffis, Eileen Sayeski, Sangennetta Walden, and Elizabeth Washington

Student: Hannah Hutchison

Community Members: Jeff Smith, Chen Liu, and Tarcha Rentz

**The agenda was approved** on a motion by Jeff Smith and seconded by Sylvia Walker.

**The minutes** of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Mike Griffis and seconded by Sylvia Walker.

### **Science Facilities Updates**

Mike Griffis shared new information regarding the update of EHS science labs and classrooms. He is planning on meeting with members of the State Legislature at the ACEA barbeque. Mr. Charbonnet reported that Mr. Shane Andrew, Executive Director of Facilities, Maintenance, Planning, and Construction, toured the EHS science facilities on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Mr. Andrew showed genuine interest in giving updates to EHS. The SAC expressed a desire to communicate to our legislators its support for additional state funding for school capital outlay. Mr. Charbonnet will get in touch with Mr. Andrew on this matter.

### **DAC Committee and Superintendent Search**

The FSBA will recommend 8 candidates for the next Alachua County Public Schools Superintendent to the SBAC during a March 18 board workshop. The board will confirm a list of 'semifinalists' which may include any or all of the 8 candidates recommended by the FSBA and any additional names agreed to by Board consensus. Following the workshop, the list of semifinalists will be provided to the DAC. All members of the Eastside High School SAC should review candidates' applications, which can be found on the SBAC website, and send all feedback to EHS SAC Chair Elizabeth Washington by March 19.

### **2012-2013 Preliminary School Grade Data**

Mr. Charbonnet discussed the preliminary School Grades for the 2012-2013 school year. EHS had the highest overall graduation rate of any high school in Alachua County (86%). EHS fell just short of the 65% minimum for graduation rate of 'at risk' students and received a preliminary grade of B. An appeal has been made to the DOE, as several questionable student cases were used to calculate this rate. It remains unclear as to when a response to the appeal will be issued. Science FCAT scores need improvement.

### **Block Schedule Waiver**

Mr. Charbonnet proposed that the SAC approve to submit a waiver for block scheduling for the 2014-2015 school year. He outlined the benefits to block scheduling, including opportunity for more credits and a "supplemental unit" teacher. SAC Chair Elizabeth Washington looked for a motion to approve submission of a block-scheduling waiver. Coral Antony made a motion, which was seconded by Chen Liu. The motion carried.

### **School Climate Survey**

Based on the results of the last climate survey administered to EHS students, the three biggest problem areas are belonging, respect, and safety. Mr. Charbonnet recommended that the survey be repeated this spring, so that we can see how students' attitudes may have changed since the beginning of the year.

The council also looked at the questions administered in 2013 to EHS faculty and parents. It was decided that all SAC members should email Elizabeth Washington with any recommendations for changing or adding to these survey questions. The results and comments sections for the last survey will be sent out to all SAC members to aid their decision-making.

### **Plans for School Advisory Council Member Elections for 2014-15**

Elections for the 2014-2015 SAC will be held this spring. EHS teachers Maria Zelaya, Jacqueline Polk, and Byers Hickmon, in addition to 2 parent council members, will reach the end of their 2-year terms as SAC members this year, leaving five vacancies for the elections. Council members agreed to engage in active recruitment for new SAC members.

### **Changes to Advance Placement Allocation for Textbooks**

EHS receives money for each student that passes an AP or IB test. Mr. Charbonnet announced that, effective next school year, \$25.00 per each of these students will be taken to pay for AP textbooks. Mr. Charbonnet pointed out that these changes would increase the efficiency of the materials-purchasing process.

### **Request for SAC Funding of ACT Scholarships**

Ms. Sylvia Walker shared data on students who took the ACT with the help of last year's SAC funding and recommended that SAC provide scholarships for EHS seniors who have exhausted ACT waivers again this year. She estimated that total funding costs would be \$1460. Jeff Smith moved to approve SAC funding of ACT scholarships. Dr. Tarcha Rentz and Chen Liu seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Announcements**

Mr. Charbonnet congratulated EHS National Achievement Scholars and Presidential Scholar Nominees. Ms. Elizabeth Washington reminded council members about the EHS production of S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*, showing from February 12-15<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.