

EHS- School Advisory Council Meeting January 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 5:30.

Attending: EHS: Jeff Charbonnet, Principal; Adele Turnage, Assistant Principal; Teachers Bobbie Benson, Craig Tench, Coral Antony, Sylvia Walker, Carol Faas. EHS staff: Sandra Scrivener, Teacher Intern Tara Rovolis. Community Members: Agnes Leslie, Ray Thomas, Patricia Hillman-Nunn, Jeff Smith, Cristina Palacio

The minutes of the November 2011 meeting were approved.
The agenda was approved.

The SAC reviewed the applications from EHS teachers for **minigrants**. The minigrants were all funded. There is some money still available for minigrants and the SAC agreed to accept applications from teachers for the next month. An e-mail has been sent to all EHS staff requesting applications.

The SAC reviewed the **school grade data for 2011**. Eastside was an "A" school last year, but due to the lowest quartile students' reading scores, the grade this year is a "B". The SAC examined the interventions the EHS is making to improve the lowest readers' abilities. This includes after school tutoring, one-on-one mentoring, the "adopt a homeroom" program, 9th grade block schedule, and calling absent students at home. In addition, many teachers have received certification in teaching reading, in order to assist students in their subject areas. A Parents Night was held for the parents of junior and senior who are in danger of not graduating due to Reading FCAT, and the parents were supplied with printouts of their students' test scores and records. Many students applied to take the ACT as a substitute for the FCAT.

The SAC expressed great interest in following up to support EHS teachers in raising students' reading scores. The next SAC meeting will feature EHS reading teachers and a more detailed discussion of ways SAC can help.

AP Participation and Performance: The SAC reviewed demographic data for students taking Advanced Placement classes. The data show increased participation and performance on AP exams by minority subsidized lunch students. EHS is encouraging more major program and minority students to take AP classes, starting with encouraging promising eighth-grade students to shadow at EHS for a day and attend AP classes. Also, the Summer AP Institute is held for students entering ninth-grade, to help them take two AP classes in ninth grade, and continue taking AP classes throughout high school. School bulletin boards advertise AP classes. AP Honor Cords are worn with the graduation gown.

School Climate Surveys will be distributed in February. The SAC reviewed previous surveys and suggested a few changes to the questions. EHS has been doing the school climate surveys online for two years now (with paper forms available for parents without computer access). All surveys are designed to be confidential.

Spring Break Schedule was discussed, and the EHS SAC members strongly prefer that the public school spring break be held the same week as the UF spring break, to better serve family schedules.

The next SAC meeting will be held on February 16, 2012,