

**Orlando Gifted Academy  
SAC Meeting Minutes, 11/12/19**

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to Order by Chair, Annette Nielsen.

It was determined by the Chair that the meeting was in Quorum.

- 9 voting members present
  - Annette Nielsen
  - Dana Thomas
  - Betty Mittleman
  - Anne Marie DeSimone
  - Cynthia Johnson
  - Kelly Acosta
  - Ed Sears
  - Sara Alexander-Kaba
  - Raegan Smythe

**Minutes**

Approval of previous SAC meeting's minutes.

- Motion made by Raegan Smythe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by \_\_\_\_\_?
- Verbal vote taken and approved by members.

**Old Business**

- **SAC Officer positions**
  - Vice chair position was in a tie position at last meeting. The tie was to be determined by the teachers. The teachers also remained in a tie position.
  - The Principal & Chair contacted the County for a resolution. The County determined that a vice chair position was not necessary, based on demographics and that our teacher representative keeps SAC at an odd number for voting purposes, for this year.
  - Therefore, SAC Vice Chair position will not be filled for the 2019/2020 year.

**New Business**

- **Review of SAC Bylaws**
  - Chair introduction
    - The Chair informed the members that the current bylaws were presented at no less than 4 SAC meetings last year. No changes were suggested to the bylaws at that time.
    - Changes to need to be posted for 30 days.
  - The Chair opened the floor for discussion.
    - Article 10, Section 2
      - The question was asked to clarify the current voting dates.
      - The Principal explained that the SAC election for officers takes place in August / September in order to get the year started and agenda items moving forward faster.
      - It was discussed that the problem with the current voting system is that members don't know who they are voting for. It is the beginning of the

school year and not everyone is familiar with each other. More time would be ideal in order for new and existing board members to make their case for future positions.

- **Suggested new bylaw language**
  - In regards to the schedule for the election of SAC officers, voting will commence at the 2<sup>nd</sup> official SAC meeting of the year, generally held in September.
- Article 6, Section 3
  - The question was asked about term limits for voting SAC members.
  - The Chair explained that the bylaws currently read that a SAC members can serve until they quit.
  - It was discussed that there should be a 2 year limit for voting SAC members.
  - The composition of the SAC members should be fluid to allow for new ideas and perspective from year to year.
  - There was a concern about parents of multiple children. A 2 year limit would only allow that parent to a partake in the process for 2 years out of the potential 6 years that they would be a parent of the school.
  - It was suggested that the limit be adjusted to a 2 year consecutive limit, giving the parent the opportunity to exit for a year and return.
  - **Suggested new bylaw language**
    - In regards to SAC voting member positions, there is a consecutive 2 year term limit. The understanding is that if a voting member serves for 2 years, at the end of the second year the member may not run or hold a voting position in the following year. After a year hiatus, that same individual may resubmit their name for consideration for another voting member term.
- Article 6, Section 9
  - The question was asked about term limits for SAC officers.
  - The Chair explained that the bylaws currently read that a SAC officer has no term limit.
    - She suggested a change to a 2-year term limit
    - The Chair also suggested staggered terms for continuity purposes.
  - It was suggested that a potential new Chair needs a 3-year term / commitment for training purposes.
  - Possibly adding the sequential positions of Vice Chair, Incoming Chair to Chair.
  - Discussion also included that there was no need for term limits.
  - **Suggested new bylaw language**
    - In regards to elected SAC officer positions, there is a term limit of 2 years for a member to maintain a leadership position. The only exception, is in the case of an unopposed officer that is re-elected by the SAC membership.
- The Chair let the members know that any suggested changes to the bylaws need approval by the County and to be put on display to the public for 30 days.

- There was discussion about the overall SAC member makeup in relation to demographics. The Chair and Principal explained that socio-economic information and gender are not included, but Race is included.
- There was discussion and concern among the members to make sure that there is not a tie situation for future voting items.
- **New Motion**
  - If there is an even number of SAC members for a proposed vote, then the Chair will abstain.
    - Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_?, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Raegan Smythe.
    - Verbal vote taken and approved by members.
- **Principal Report**
  - Updates
    - Staffing
      - Ms. Jaigobin – Heath Assistant
        - Completing nurse training, dispensing student medication.
      - Ms. Lineberry – Media Clerk
        - Another 500-600 books incoming
      - Ms. Cherolini – School Secretary
      - Ms. Barham – update, still recovering and will return in a few weeks
    - Mural
      - Completed. Artist will return in February for more artwork
    - Media Center carpet
      - Fire Marshall deemed the carpet a hazard and reported to the County that the Media Center needs new carpet immediately.
    - Library Books
      - Over 500 books have been ordered.
      - Middle school books are included in that order.
        - These books will be separated and monitored by Ms. Lineberry to make sure that children have access to only age appropriate content.
      - AR is up and running.
    - Blinds
      - Will cost \$9,000, and are under consideration to be paid for by the County as well.
    - **\*\*Water Fountains \*\***
      - New discussion item
        - Parents expressed concern to the condition of the water fountains on campus. They are green with mold and unsanitary.
        - The Principal agreed to bring it to the attention of custodial services to fix right away.
  - Magnet Fair and Magnet Tours
    - The OGA table was very busy at the Magnet Fair, with many interested parents.
    - More Tour Dates will be scheduled and announced soon.
  - Planning for next year
    - There will be a 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
    - Offering two foreign languages
      - This is a goal for next year, for one teacher with dual certifications.

- The plan is to expose the elementary children to language informally in ‘specials’, then offer the 2 languages as full courses to middle school students.
  - Transformation Room
    - Kids loved ‘Sleepy Hollow’.
    - Mr. Burnett has already been asked, ‘what is next?’, before the Christmas Store moves in.
  - School Newsletter
    - A digital version will be available after the January break.
    - New design will consist of 2 pages, page 1 news and page 2 ‘A week in pictures’.
  - Project Based Learning (PBL)
    - OGA is now considered a Cohort in PBL.
    - OGA was selected as a part of the group earlier this year after a sudden vacancy.
    - PBL isn’t just learning in the classroom, this is where classroom based projects are introduced into the ‘real world’ and are opened to the community for input.
  - School Recognition Money (A+ funds)
    - \$16,518
      - SAC and school staff need to come to a consensus on the distribution of these funds by February 1.

### **Next Meeting**

- December 10, 2019 – 5pm

### **Important Dates**

- November 13 – Spirit Night (Blaze Pizza)
- November 15 – Pastries with my Person (7:45 – 8:30am)
- November 20 – PTA Stock the Fridge
- November 21 – Teach-In
- November 22 – Progress Reports Go Home
- November 25-29 – Thanksgiving Break
- December 4 – PTA Thankful for our Teachers Lunch
- December 6 – Barnes & Noble Night
- December 9 – 13 – PTA Holiday Shop
- December 10
  - Magnet Tour
  - SAC Meeting (5:00 – 5:30pm)
  - Cluster Showcase (5:30 – 6:30pm)

### **Adjournment**

- Motion made at 5:53pm by \_\_\_\_\_?, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Raegan Smythe.