**Hickory Creek Elementary School**

**SAC Minutes**

**November 2, 2021**

**Meeting was held in Media Center as well as virtually through Microsoft Teams. Jillian Ferro called the meeting to order at 4:02pm**

**11 were in attendance: Jillian Ferro, Chrissy Tarpey, Laura Eads, Jennifer Brant, Stephanie Bennett, Shauna Smalling (via phone), Raquel McAlee (via Microsoft Teams), Jeremy McAlee (via Microsoft Teams), Stephanie Kluge (via Microsoft Teams), Jennifer Tarrant (via Microsoft Teams), and Antonio Scott subbed in for Dr. Rebecca England (via Microsoft Teams).**

**Chrissy Tarpey made a motion to open the meeting and Jennifer Brant seconded it.**

**Raquel McAlee presented the Treasurer’s Report. The School Rec budget has not changed and still reflects a balance of $0.00. The SAC budget balance is: $5215.78. Raquel mentioned that a line item shows a deposit of $466.45 labeled as “teacher benefits” but she is awaiting confirmation as to what that specifically implies. Based on this unknown information, we will not vote to approve the Treasurers report at this time. We will push this vote to December’s meeting in order to get clarification on the line item reflecting a deposit.**

**Jillian Ferro then asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes for the October 2021 meeting. Those that had been present at last month’s meeting had reviewed them and no discrepancies were mentioned. Raquel McAlee made a motion to approve the minutes and Stephanie Kluge seconded. All were in favor and so the minutes were approved.**

**Ms. Ferro then introduced Stephanie Bennett who will be joining the board as the support staff member as well as parent if necessary. Jennifer Brant made a motion to approve her as a new board member and Laura Eads seconded the motion. All were in favor and we welcomed Stephanie Bennett as our new support staff board member.**

**Jillian Ferro then brought up a focus group meeting that Shauna Smalling had attended and read notes that Shauna had asked her to read on her behalf as she was driving. She told us that there are currently 46,350 students enrolled in school in Saint Johns County (SJC). This year alone there was an 8.5% growth. There are gaps in Math across the state. In the last two years the focus has been on employment, SJC growth, political, economic, and social divide, as well as how public health and safety is perceived. As far as food service is concerned, the food and supplies are inconsistent which is also increasing the costs of all of these items. As a result of this increasing cost, SJC will be discontinuing the “no cost meals” as of December 1, 2021. Those who qualify for no cost meals will have to fill out the necessary paperwork. The next topic mentioned was Transportation. All bus routes are now equipped with air conditioning. The department is not completely staffed and are currently functioning at 95% capacity. There has been a very low labor pool with very few applicants and a high volume of quarantines involving current staff. Some buses are making double and triple runs as 23,000 students use bus transportation daily. This year they are also providing support to other departments as well as two new schools. Route demands increased from 237 to 240. And the last topic mentioned was field trips and dance events. As of this morning, in county field trips have been approved. The yearly trip for our fifth graders to Universal Studios is still pending an approval for this year. The next focus group meeting for anyone interested in attending will be on December 8, 2021.**

**Jillian Ferro next discussed that all present need to review our current Needs Assessment Survey to come up with anything that they feel may need to be added or deleted from the survey. Any proposed changes to the survey will be discussed at next month’s meeting. Jeremy McAlee mentioned that with having a new principal at HCE, it is very important to get her feedback as far as anything she may want to add. Antonio Scott also stated that it is important to know of any administration input. He also stated that it is important to include questions that will provide us with actionable responses that can allow change. He also reminded us that it is also important to ask questions that are geared towards all of our varying perspectives such as staff, parental, and student input.**

**The Principal Update was not available as Mrs. Cubero-Gonzalez was not able to be present at this meeting.**

**Ms. Ferro mentioned that a request for funds may be coming regarding SAC purchasing RAZ Kids for the school. Further information will be given via email from Shauna Smalling and then a vote can be made to approve or deny the request. Another request for funds was also submitted to Shauna Smalling from Tara Espinoza (our school librarian) for an upcoming conference. Shauna Smalling will email further details on this as well so that a vote can be made before the next meeting in order to expedite these requests. Antonio Scott reminded the board of a few questions that should be asked whenever a request for funds is received. Those questions include but are not limited to: is there another way that this request may be funded such as through PTO or other means, have these funds been requested in past years for similar purposes, and does it apply to the school as a whole as well as the current goals of the School Improvement Plan (SIP). Chrissy Tarpey asked if there was anything stated in the bylaws as far as a first come, first serve scenario as to how we choose to distribute funds that are requested or does it come down to which is considered a higher priority in SAC’s opinion based on whether or not the request meets the school’s current SIP goals. Jennifer Brant asked if there is a certain deadline that we must approve or deny the requests. Chrissy Tarpey asked if Shauna could email all SAC members prior to the next meeting with all of this information so that a decision can be reached before the December meeting. Shauna Smalling stated that she will do her best to get all of the necessary information requested and email all members for a vote prior to the next meeting**

**The next meeting will be held on December 7, 2021 at 4pm in the media center as well as virtually on Microsoft Teams.**

**Chrissy Tarpey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Raquel McAlee seconded the motion. Jillian Ferro called for a vote and the majority of those present approved the motion.**

**Meeting adjourned at 4:38pm**