

## **Gold Hill Middle School SIC Minutes - 11/16/20**

### **Attendance**

Robertson, Duda, Harms, Drake, Eppes, Scroggs, Cheske, Slater, Rhodes, Wilson

### **Review of Responsibilities**

Chair reviewed process to run meetings, take minutes, attendance, etc. based on guidelines from the South Carolina School Improvement Council Handbook. Meeting agendas will be distributed to SIC members 24 hours prior to meeting and will be posted on the school website after meeting.

### **Amendment to Previous Minutes and Distribution Going Forward**

GHMS SIC approved the minutes from previous meeting with changes to reflect meeting attendance. Past meetings minutes will be emailed to committee members prior to subsequent meetings and members will submit change requests to Mr. Robertson. Approved meeting minutes will be posted on the GHMS website.

### **Committee Contact Information Submitted**

Mr. Eppes will submit GHMS SIC committee members and contact information.

### **School Reading Plan Access**

Mrs. Harms has a copy of school's Read to Succeed Plan "Reading Plan". Chair will share that information with the committee prior to the next in-person GHMS SIC meeting.

### **Training Courses for SIC**

Chair will send out a link to online training courses for SIC members.

### **School Updates**

#### 1. Outdoor Pep Rallies

The rallies went well and included virtual students. Virtual student athletes were able to participate in-person. Sixth grade won for the first time in recent memory!

#### 2. BIT Club

BIT Club is going well and GHMS is helping struggling students get back on track. SIC would like to explore how student academic improvement could become an SIC goal. Students who are passing their classes are now able to stay in class while other students will stay in BIT for more help. SIC will continue to follow the rate of students passing classes.

#### 3. Homework

Failing students predominantly are not turning in their homework. SIC wants to explore if GHMS can figure out a way to simplify homework communication. For example, some assignments have clear due dates/times and some do not. Some assignments are on a Slideshow and some are unclear when or if assignments can be turned in late. GHMS faculty and staff will explore

uniform due dates (i.e., does Friday mean by 3:10pm or 11:59pm). Principal Eppes believes GHMS needs to get every teacher's Google Classroom to look the same.

#### 4. Incentive

Incentives are different from the past. This year will have movie/candy in pods and will go to related arts teachers. Virtual teachers will be doing "free periods" to students and holding back other students who need extra help with teach.

#### 5. Social Emotional Needs of Students

Counselors do minute meetings, check-ins, parent calls, parent/teacher meetings, counseling lessons, help in BIT club, 504 and IEP meetings, running small-group counseling meetings, solicit feedback from teachers, girls' book club, career discussions, job-shadow day, community connections, Angel tree, "Straight Off the Couch" in newsletter. The WEB program with 8th grade leaders is helping 6th graders. Students are supported by the House program as well as the BEL Academy. SIC discussed what measures are taken when parents report a social/emotional problem for their child.

#### 6. Student of the Month

GHMS will try to bring back student of the month from last year and will explore non-food rewards such as DJ for the day.

#### 7. Exact Path

STAR testing identified some weaknesses in Math/Reading. GHMS will re-test to see growth in student performance. SIC would like to explore how improvements in student STAR performance could become an SIC goal for the 20/21 academic year.

#### 8. SIC Goals

SIC members discussed school year 20/21 goals. It discussed improving student achievement with grades, failure rates, STAR data. It also discussed parent communication on how to use Parent Portal and how to drive increased parent usage. GHMS will attempt to run reports to find how many parents log into the system. SIC will also help GHMS with its Strategic Plan for the next five years.

#### 9. Next meeting

GHMS staff will have conversations with Related Arts teachers and community leaders to plan for Festival of the Arts. It may want to work with PTA. GHMS will explore art in local restaurants and art classes are making a giant card for the Christmas parade.