SAC Minutes for November 19, 2015

* Call to order at 4:30 PM.
* Attending: David Simpkins, Kate Neff, Cynthia Morrison, Roger Williams, Isabelle Pitcher, Alexandra Phillips, Jessica McCloud, Wanda English, Denise Sadowski, Nancy Little, Marci Poston, Adrienne Paone, Stephanie Toffaletti
* Introductions of visitors and welcome
* Calendar events
* Wednesday, 11/25 is a full school day (it’s been corrected for next year)
* Hastings parade Saturday, 12/12 (many clubs/other groups participating)
* Exam week begins 12/14; exams = 10% of student’s grade, county mandated)
* Students return to school on Wednesday, 1/6 (teachers have a planning day on Tuesday, 1/5)
* What’s been going on at PMHS
* Spirit bus last Friday (took 45-50 students to football playoff game)
* District discipline meeting: PMHS out-of-school suspensions are down 25% from two years ago thanks to creative alternatives being offered (lunch detention, after-school detention, ISS, work detail, and – possibly in the future – Saturday school
* Funding request from Adrienne Paone and Stephanie Toffaletti
* Would like to supplement a joint AVID/IB fieldtrip on Friday, 2/19
* Involves around 200 10th/11th grade students
* Special ticket to Universal Studios AND Islands of Adventure plus a behind-the-scenes three-hour tour
* Summative group projects and presentations will follow (some possibilities include creating a roller coaster, writing a “story” about a roller coaster, creating a digital roller coaster, examining the psychology behind fright, and looking at anatomical reactions to roller coaster riding, such as comparing one’s pulse before and after)
* Total cost per student for special two-park ticket, tour, and bus = $130
* Request to also apply the $550 SAC funding for the Jaguars Experience (or what remains if the 18 students still attend that event) to this endeavor
* SAC budget
* $7,900 to start off the school year
* $134 dollars allotted for Kate Neff’s hotel costs for conference
* After funding Jaguars Experience and AVID/IB field trip, SAC would have $6,716.76
* “Must Pay” = Turnitin.com, which costs between $3K and $4K 9 (SAC would contribute $2K)
* Discussion of how to best use the money
* Struggling students/grade recovery?
* Establishing categories (Professional Development, with a cap; school projects; students, perhaps with a cookout and/or a motivational speaker)
* Plan to ask student council to contribute ideas
* Idea for next year’s recognition money vote: add “student appreciation, 10%” as part of ballot
* Increasing communication
* Parent-run SAC Facebook page?
* Sending out principal’s newsletter via text?
* Beginning in December, invite one department chair or representative to each SAC meeting in order to voice concerns/tell the committee what they can do to help
* Vote for AVID/IB funding request
* Nancy Little moves to vote
* Wanda English seconds
* The request is approved
* Adjourned at 5:30 PM
* Next Meeting: December 17th

*--submitted by Cynthia Morrison*