

**High Hills Elementary School  
School Improvement Council**

**Minutes**

November 15, 2016

2:30 PM, Room 206

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Discussion
  - Issues being worked
    - Lighting for safety –
      - External lights around school – school/district is working to ensure drives and parking areas are lit
      - Lights for covered walkways
      - Lighting around entry drive
      - Crosswalks – Discussed with Dr. Baker
      - Mr. Kennedy said it was really dark last night when leaving the board meeting. Dr. Baker mentioned solar lights.
  - What have we been up to at High Hills
    - Website is up and running \*Google is up and running for the website that Mrs. Huggins maintains. Parent Page/FB/Class DoJo is used as another way for teachers to communicate with parents.
    - Parent Page through parent facilitator (on Facebook)
    - Book fair – successfully completed – dates extended with Hurricane Matthew in the middle
    - Professional Development going strong
      - READ TO SUCCEED
        - Meeting provided monthly by reading coach from another school
        - Meetings with reading coach here during planning time
      - We are moving towards a Guided Reading and Guided Math structure
      - Google Classroom – integrating technology and teachers learning how to use for stations

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- We are one of five schools in district using one on one Chromebooks. Helps teachers work one on one with children
- Red Ribbon – successful week, artwork in the hallways
  - Art work still up around the school
- Fire Prevention
- Fall Pictures – make-ups on Thursday
- Fund Raiser – item pick up on Thursday
- First Report Cards – we are looking at data to drive instruction (Mastery Connect, district common assessments)
  - Meeting with Mrs. Smith about what went well and what went wrong.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Awards Assembly
- We sent approximately 60 4<sup>th</sup> graders to Camp Bob Cooper for 3 day overnight environmental field trips
- Veteran’s Day Assembly – lovely service last Thursday
- School Clubs
  - 25 different clubs (1-2 times a month)
- Current needs
  - Writing the improvement plan for next year is coming up this spring.
  - Lights again mentioned, Dr. Baker is informed about this issues/crossing guards needed at the intersection between base housing and Shaw Heights.
  - Email was sent by Dr. Kennedy about crossing guards; however, Dr. Baker is concerned about funds need to be made available.
    - Wing Safety -- traffic light where the 3 way stop is located/ 2 children were almost struck by a vehicle.
  - Teachers/Allen-Gregg suggested a document camera for shared reading
    - There may be one in the Media Center that may be used on a check out basis. Tablets were mentioned however they do not project unless you have a program.
  - If funds are being spent on materials the materials must be used, money should not be wasted
  - Overall teachers are pleased and feel they are prepared with materials that allow them to be successful in teaching their students daily.
  - Teachers should push out tutoring in the morning/evening-- teachers have tutoring incentives sent in emails from Dr. Norton

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- Calendar of events
  - November 14 – HHES Hosted the November Board of Trustees meeting
  - November 16 – Fall Picture Re-takes
  - November 18 – School Spirit Day and Club Day
  - November 21 – 25 – Thanksgiving Break
  - December 1 – 9 – MAP Winter Testing \*1<sup>st</sup> time on Chrome books
  - December 8 -- Winter Celebration (Mr. Cato and Mrs. Madojemu)
  - December 5 – Interims
  - December 6 – Marco’s Pizza Day \* 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month all day
    - \$60.00 made last month
  - December 13 – SIC/Title I Meeting
- Title I –
  - Budget approved
    - Purchases
      - Near Pod
      - USA Test Prep/
      - Printers
    - The bulk of the money is being spent on Professional Development. Conferences for Teachers to attend with understanding they must come back with information to share with peers and co-workers. ASCD is one of the best conferences.
    - All schools are not Title 1 and spend the money different.
    - Next meeting will have a more specific break down of expenditures.
  - Centers ELA-Guided reading one on one/ tech group/writing and daily oral language/groups are rotating allowing teachers to see all the students in the class.
  - Centers Math- Tech/hands on experience/ manipulatives/games 20 minutes at each area/ focus students with teacher and peer working with peers. Soft skills are needed to prepare children for later after graduation.
  - Test scores need to go up but do not want moral to go down.
  - Incentive for the students -- example is the bike for perfect attendance.
  - Questions
    - Mrs. P -- Are there resources that can be sent to the parents to help and assist children at home?
    - USATestPrep--ask teacher for password. ELA/Math/Science/SS

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- Information will be sent home. EOC exam (HS Level) was higher with those students that used USA Test Prep.
- MobyMax
- There used to be a link on the Sumter School District Website for resources.
- Request that resources for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade ideas be added to school website and Parent FB Page
  - Monthly School Newsletter has home connection
- Mr. Kennedy reported airmen want to come in read to students -- how can they help? After volunteer approval they are welcome anytime to help.
- Parent Facilitator
  - Parent Workshops/resource room materials/volunteer information/Parent FB page/ District Website will be updated with parent workshop.
- Dec 13<sup>th</sup> next meeting.
- Adjournment