**Valley Ridge Academy School Advisory Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 9, 2018**

Recorded by: Johanna Santinho

Quorum Status: MET

Start Time: 3:30pm End Time: 4:45pm

1. Call to Order: Holly Nover
2. Welcome & New Members Intro
   1. Notice of general sign-in sheet & notice of 5-star sign-in sheet for voting members
   2. Holly Nover welcomed new voting members Kathi Hill (volunteer at VRA), Kurt Oster (business partner with Psych Ed Connections), Craig Myers (Parent)
3. Review of September Meeting Minutes
   1. Item line 7 change from July 20th and 27th to September 20th and 27th
   2. Motion to approve minutes by Megan Terry, second by Craig Myers
4. School Board Update: Kelly Barrera
   1. Upcoming
      1. Behavioral consortium will be held at Sebastian Middle School on 10/15
      2. Girls in Steam presentation will be held on 10/20 at Sebastian Middle school
   2. The budget board meeting approved the opening of two new schools in a 5 year projection: new high school, new K-8, additions to CHS & Liberty Pines
5. Principal Update: Sandra McMandon -In absence, James Lee
   1. Severe weather advisory issued Wednesday morning
      1. Mr. Lee complimented teachers and students for following Tornado warning effectively and successfully
      2. Email blast was sent advising families of inclement weather
      3. Girls in IT visited VRA ICT classes on Monday and Tuesday
6. School Improvement Plan Highlights: James Lee
   1. Set plan is to recognize and celebrate the achievements in science with students such as Yash Signh
   2. Gains and progress in science requires a recognition to science teachers
   3. Holly Nover is doing a great job of pulling teachers together through a mentoring program at VRA
   4. Camps in the summer, such as Soaring High. A great way to stay connected to the community and meet the needs of low-income families
   5. Disparities
      1. VRA ELA FSA dropped and we are now looking to make gains in ELA and in Math
   6. As a result we are trying to keep classes small to drive the lowest 25%
   7. We want all the teachers to feel ownership of all students by developing a communal investment
      1. PLCs allow teachers to sit and look at data collectively, having a team approach to instruction
   8. Consistent grading practices
      1. Recommendations to middle school and the elementary level, so that all grading policies are consistent.
   9. Making our schools unique. The student-to-student program connects students with a peer that welcomes and guides them in their new environment.
   10. Simultaneously the PTO is collaborating by providing new families with welcoming committees.
   11. Character counts lessons implemented in lesson plans
   12. Hawk Bucks
       1. A success in behavior and visible with a drop of referrals/class issues
7. Middle School Grade Level Spotlight (500 Students)
   1. Aletha Dresback (Team leader for middle school)
      1. Our curriculum( Power Point presentation)
      2. Team leads meet once a month, Team-level PLCs, Grade-level PLCs, Subject-level PLCs
      3. Erica MacNaught is now middle school guidance counselor - very involved in the daily routine of our students
      4. Teachers are focused on remediation and enrichment in a team effort
      5. ELA every student takes the FSA and FSA writing
         1. Implemented I-ready testing is used to monitor the lower 25% students throughout the year.
      6. Science: Standard and advanced courses are offered - 8th graders will take FSSA
      7. Social Studies: 6th grade World History, 7th grade Civics, 8th grade US History
      8. Math: 6th standard or advanced, 7th grade standard or advanced Algebra honors (HS course), 8th grade Pre-Algebra
      9. Electives:
         1. Spanish (Exp. 1-semester course, Beg, Int.)
            1. Optional Spanish 1 credit (Beg. and Int. required)
            2. Students are encouraged to excel in both courses in order to take the Spanish 1 HS credit.
            3. EOCs are district created for all Spanish courses
         2. Band: 6th- beginning band, 7th and 8th concert band, 8th Symphonic band
         3. ICT
         4. Get involved: Clubs vary from NJHS, SHA, HB, Chorus
         5. Art: Presented by Kathryn Frericks
            1. Middle grade arts focused on the process

Making connections with the community

Digital arts program

* + - * 1. EOC- district created
        2. Exceptional Student Art Gallery

We have our ESE student artwork displayed

* + - * 1. Band in Disney& at Nease Middle School night

Involved with the community

1. Old Business
2. New Business
   1. SAC Funds Request
      1. This year we received $2900 from district & the SAC fund balance is $14000
      2. Mahaven, Mora, Knoblauch
         1. Mahaven: Requesting funds for the SHAPE Florida conference at the end of October. Innovating collaboration and professional development for physical education and art.
            1. Requesting for $560 for registration & hotel accommodations
            2. Motion to approve Megan Terry
            3. Second by Kurt Oster
            4. All in favor
         2. Mora: Requesting funds for the SHAPE Florida conference at the end of October. Innovating collaboration and professional development for physical education and art.
            1. Requesting for $403 for registration & hotel accommodations
            2. Motion to approve by Mrs. Hickey
            3. Second by Megan Terry
            4. All in favor
         3. Knoblauch: Requesting funds to go the Florida Music Educators conference that takes place in January
            1. Requesting for $637.32 for registration and half oh hotel (savings of $250), and three days of a substitute
            2. Kathi Hill motion to amend funds requested from $637.32 to $887.32 including the full amount of the Hotel cost
            3. Motioned to approve Megan Terry
            4. Second by Kurt Oster
            5. All in favor
3. Adjournment
4. Motioned