

### SAC Meeting Minutes—November 2, 2011

\*The meeting was called to order by the SAC Chairperson, Max Devant, at 7:52 am. The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and approved by Mr. Passman and seconded by Ms. Seggio.

\*The *School Advisory Council By-laws* were reviewed and unanimously approved.

**Mrs. Sikorski, Electives**—Mrs. Libby's Art class had a first prize winner for a county poster contest for school lunches; congratulations to 8<sup>th</sup> grader Vanessa Astorga! The Peer Counselors attended "Reverse Trick-or-Treating" at West Broward Care Center Nursing Home. They brought sugar free candy and a lot of smiles to the residents. Many of the students took UNICEF boxes while they Trick-or-Treated in their neighborhoods. Red Ribbon Week was a great success. The students dressed in crazy socks, favorite team jerseys, and "Wear Red Day". SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) made a "Wall of Death" in the Cafeteria where outlined bodies like a crime scene included facts about tobacco. Nova Southeastern University Medical Center will be sending students on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> to speak about the effects of tobacco.

The Fall Harvest Drive has a select list of items, but any donation is appreciated. TTMS began collecting on 10/31, and the competition is heating up for a first period winner; currently Mrs. Barrios's class is in the lead. Local families from our community are the beneficiaries of our collection. Each family will be receiving 10 bags of groceries and staple items, so please be generous.

**Mrs. Kaszovitz, ESOL**—There will be an ESOL parents' meeting on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the KC Wright Building. BEEP and Virtual Counselor will be on display and parents will have the opportunity to practice assessing these programs' special features. "English Now", a data based program being rolled out for 5 schools this year has sent more materials for our students. The ESOL METRIC website has added a new hyperlink called "Reading for Literacy" for students and parents. It also includes lessons with strategies for teachers to use in the classroom.

**Mrs. Bello, Math**—Teachers analyzed BAT scores, and areas of weaknesses are being addressed. This Friday, *Destination Math* will be presented for alignment with our standards on-line, especially for the low scorers. Mrs. Sesto already has students assigned to the program who are not expected to pass the FCAT at this time. She is meeting with students before school for extra help. Mrs. Goldwyn's program, "Kids Helping Kids," meets once a week for tutoring before school by GEM 8 Geometry students. The Math Club is busily preparing for the AMC8 to be held on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Mrs. Winter, ESE**—A group of teachers from each subject area, Mrs. Palmieri, Mrs. Swinerton, Mrs. Diez, Mrs. Rosario, Mrs. Patullo, Ms. O'Bryan, Mrs. Foy-Meyer and Mrs. Winter presented ideas for Differentiated Instruction that can be used for all students, not just ESE, at a recent professional development. The ESE Department is planning follow-ups on this subject throughout the year. One of our paraprofessionals, Laura Ferency, was voted non-instructional employee of the year! She is an invaluable support in the SVE classroom. The SVE classroom is getting a lifting table to help with changing two of our students who are in diapers. The students from the SVE class are excited to be attending the field trip to the Miami Planetarium this Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Mrs. Huff, Language Arts**—The 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes are taking the BAT 2 writing tests on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> for explanatory (expository) and written argument (persuasive) styles. We are focusing instruction on the introductions, elaboration, and conclusions; these are the areas that the students needed to revise from BAT 1. On Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> three hundred 8<sup>th</sup> graders will attend performances of core curriculum stories from literature at the Omni Theater in Coconut Creek.

**Mrs. Barrios, Social Studies**—January 3-6 are the new dates for the Junior Achievement field trip; we are asking for volunteers to chaperone this event with the students.

**Mrs. Manning, Reading**—Since our last meeting, we have completed two major school-wide literacy events. Our Fall Dance, which also celebrated our "Summer Readers Program," was a success with 199 students participating. The PTA provided water, chaperones, and financial support to help with the DJ, for which we are grateful. Also, all of the administrators were there to provide support. Secondly, our "Get Caught Reading" October theme of favorite book characters was celebrated as staff members dressed in costume as their favorite book characters this

past Thursday. The feedback was extremely positive from the students. They got a chance to see their teachers dressed as Cats in the Hats, Professor Dumbledore, Scarlett O'Hara, Victor Frankenstein, and Viola Swamp, to name a few. It was a great day of promoting the joy of reading. Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade readers are beginning the novel study of The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins; Mrs. Roberts was provided a class set of student books with grant funding given by the PTA.

**Mr. Passman, Science**—The science department has been busy continuing to help our students to advance their learning and skills in Earth-Space, Life, and Physical Science. Students have been engaged in many laboratory exercises and are preparing their science project plans for presentation in January, 2012. Several Science teachers have participated in, or planned programs, since our last report. Carolyn Santangelo is our liaison to the Broward County Science Fair. She has presented information to our department and has provided many resources for teachers to assist our students in planning their science projects. Tracie Palmieri participated in a discussion on Differentiated Instruction to our faculty last week. Glory Andreolas is taking her 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science students to the Miami Planetarium this Friday. Another planned field trip is a tour of the Florida Everglades in January, 2012. Science teachers have submitted and reviewed the questions and answers for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science BAT 2 which will be administered during the week after Thanksgiving, while 8th grade students will take the Broward County Benchmark Assessment.

**Mrs. Dillmeier, Media Specialist**—The recent book fair sold over \$7,100.00 worth of books! This was thanks to the great selection this year. Also, thanks to the PTA for supporting and manning the event☺ The Fall Dance was fabulous! Some of the money from last year purchased \$3,700.00 worth of books from Scholastic including e-books, some fiction/non-fiction, for students to download to their Nooks or Kindles. At the Learning Resources site professional texts are available on-line for teachers and soon for parents. The "Get Your Read On" promotion's next event is the "Need to Read." During 2<sup>nd</sup> period, the students in each grade level will have bragging rights for the most novels read. The adult's will share in this activity too! The office and the teachers planning area will post their reading accomplishments for all to see☺

**Mrs. Nissen, Community School**—New classes started this week. Added to the curriculum are flamenco and ballet dance classes. They are happy to announce that enrollment is up.

*School Improvement Plan*—the department heads explained what each subject area is doing to raise the scores/achievement for our students. Our 2011-2012 BAT 1 scores showed marked improvement from the BAT 1 scores on the 2010-2011 assessment, especially in Math. Our scores are predicted to improve from BAT 1 to BAT 2 due to the programs and strategies being implemented in the classrooms.

**\*A+ Money Ballot Proposal**—Although no monetary amounts have been sent from the state, and we will possibly be waiting until January for them to come in, the proposals for the ballot were discussed. Disbursements will probably not be sent to the recipients until February 2012. The proposals were read by SAC Chairperson, Mr. Devant; wording was adjusted and clarifications made by SAC member, Mr. Rosenthal. We voted on the 3 proposals which read as follows:

1. Faculty/staff members of the 2010-2011 school year will receive 90% of the A+ funds distributed evenly across the entire faculty/staff. This would include those that transferred schools and/or moved or retired. Any faculty/staff who worked less than a full year shall receive a distribution equal to 50% of the amount of distribution made to the faculty/staff who worked a full year. The school will receive 10% of the A+ funds for materials/supplies/items requested, and approved through SAC.
2. Faculty/staff members of the 2010-2011 school year will receive 100% of the A+ funds distributed evenly across the entire faculty/staff. This would include those that transferred to other schools and/or moved or retired. Any faculty/staff member who worked less than a full school year shall receive a distribution equal to 50% of the amount of distribution to the faculty/staff who worked a full school year. The school will receive 0% of the A+ funds.
3. None of the above.

Following the review and discussion, **the vote was unanimous to approve ballot proposal as stated above.**

**Business Partners—Mr. Nudelman** thanked TTMS for supporting his business☺ (Thank you, Mr. Nudelman, for supporting TTMS!) **Mr. Rosenthal**, reminded everyone at TTMS to join the “Get Fit” program in Weston.

**SAF—Mrs. Couture** shared that the new Common Core Standards have been approved in 45 states. For more information please access the Power Point at [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org) ,and [www. PARCConline.org](http://www.PARCConline.org).

**PTA--Mrs. Morin** stated that the TTMS “Cougar Challenge Walk-a-Thon” will take place next Thursday, Nov. 10th. There is still time for students to bring in \$25.00 and a canned good in order to participate. In return, the students will be pulled from TWO classes that day, one to walk, and one to dance! *AND* each walker will get a free T-Shirt as an admission ticket! Mrs. Wolk, parent/SAC member, stated that \$25.00 donations and bringing in cans may be too much for families who have more than one student at the school. She suggested that any donation should be accepted and will help toward the fundraising. Mrs. Morin replied that since it’s linked to an activity, like an in-house field trip, a set amount was necessary. Teacher grant money, \$3,500.00, is still available. PTA membership exceeded last year’s!

**BTU, Mrs. Passman** proudly announced that the Tequesta Trace Teacher of the Year for 2011-2012 is our Reading Specialist, **Mrs. Laurie Manning!** Congratulations to Mrs. Manning and all of the other nominated teachers. As a follow-up to the teacher training regarding teacher evaluations that was held on Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> and facilitated by Mrs. Bowman, Mr. Ralph Eckhardt from BTU will be on campus before school on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> to answer questions about the new evaluation system. Implementation of the new evaluations will commence in January.

\*Mrs. Breese noted a concern that there was no information sent home regarding Red Ribbon Week and the related activities. Mrs. Sikorski stated that the information was on the morning announcements and in the classrooms for students to note in their agendas. It was requested to please include this type of activity on the school’s website in the future.

\*With no further questions or concerns, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 by Mr. Devant. The next SAC meeting will take place on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:50 am in the TTMS Media Center.

In attendance: Mrs. Breese; Mrs. Couture; Mr. Devant; Mrs. Dixon-Wyatt; Mr. Drucker; Mrs. Franco; Mrs. Libier; Deputy Maccagli; Mrs. Mendelson; Mr. Micensky; Ms. Newmeyer; Mr. Nudelman; Mrs. Passman; Ms. Pino; Mr. Rosenthal; Ms. Sayre; Ms. Schneider; Ms. Seggio; Ms. Siegel; Ms. Sunshine; Mrs. Wolk; Mrs. Sikorski; Mrs. Barrios; Ms. Kaszovitz; Mrs. Bello; Mrs. Felder; Mrs. Winter; Mrs. Dillmeier; Mr. Gomez; Mrs. Nissen; Mrs. Tunon; Mr. Passman; Mrs. Huff; Mrs. Manning

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Mrs. Linda Y. Huff, NBCT