

Parent Liaison Committee

September 19, 2018

Parent Representatives Present:

FMHS
NFHS Ronald Dozier
BTMS Kim Robbins, Marie Demartin (guest), Carrie Seekings (guest)
FMMS Jennifer Bowman, Debbie Grudice (guest)
GHMS Auvis Cole, Sarah Matchunis
PKMS Christopher McGann, Michelle Angeldorf
SFMS Melissa Hampton,
DBES Debbie Houser, Jenna Petri
FMES Sue Wakefield
GHES Laura Green, Torri Jackson
OPES Erinn Connelly
PKES Darla Cheski, Tyler Jaeger
RVES Kendra King
SCES
SFES Dani Froom, Tracy Thomas
TCES Liz Duda, Barbara Little, Tammy Marks, Carrie Shearin

School Board Representatives:

Kristy Spears, Wayne Bouldin

Administration:

Dr. Chuck Epps, Marty McGinn, Leanne Lordo, Dr. Amy Maziarz, Dr. Tommy Schmolze, Dr. Mike Waiksnis,
Dr. Antwon Sutton, Ann Bogan, Brian Spittle, Jay Taylor, Joe Burke, Jenney Overman, Rich Todd, Tammy Welch

Dr. Chuck Epps

- Greeted everyone and welcomed to the meeting
- Introduced Bob Norwood from All On Board Coalition. Bob gave us a quick overview on their mission of addressing teen substance abuse.
- Gave highlights on upcoming high school redistricting. Please watch FMSD website for updates and important meeting dates regarding high school reassignments and new attendance lines. Stated that Catawba Ridge will be classified as a 3A school while FMHS and NAFO will fall somewhere between 4A and 5A. Catawba Ridge High School will not have a senior class the first year, only grades 9-11. Catawba Ridge will have all varsity sports but we are still waiting on status of varsity football.
- Discussed the upcoming school board elections on Nov 6th. There are 9 candidates running for 4 seats. There will be a Candidate Forum on Oct 16th at FMHS @ 6:30. Hosted by the Teacher Forum. Encouraged parents to get to know the candidates and to get out and vote.
- The new Aquatic Center construction proposal with a new 50 meter pool was approved by the board last week. Construction and renovation of the Leroy Springs Recreational Center will begin sometime in the next 3 weeks. This is a collaborative effort of the YMCA, FMSD, and Leroy Springs. Aquatic Center was funded by the 2015 bond referendum.

Leanne Lordo

- Addressed the status of the Impact Fees. She stated that the Impact Fee program is currently under litigation. While we will continue to collect the fees on new housing construction, our legal council has recommended that we do not use the funds until the litigation has been resolved. All funds collected are being held by York County. Current total impact fees collected: \$2.2 M. We will now have to proceed as if we do not have these funds when settling next year's debt millage. To clarify, the lawsuit is challenging the 2016 South Carolina law & its legality of all statewide new construction impact fees- not FM's numbers or data. It has been filed in the State Supreme Court.

FMSD is not being sued, but we have committed to help with legal funds if we defense became necessary. We are looking at a 1 year minimum for resolution. Administration has recommended to the board to raise millage by 6 mils. We sold \$100 M out of \$190 M bonds available last week to cover construction costs of new high school & 2 new elementary schools. If lawsuit falls in our favor (which we believe it will), we can expect millage rate will go down again.

- She addressed out of state car tag registration. Our department has been active in pursuing those residents that have children enrolled in our schools that still have an out of state car tag. We have made efforts to educate them on the SC law that mandates they register their car in the State of South Carolina within 45 days of residency.

Marty McGinn

- Discussed teacher redistribution for high schools. Final personnel for all three schools should be finalized by mid to late January. Any Growth positions will be finalized mid February.
- Discussed the STEAM Synposium that is coming up on Oct 2 & 3. Over 100 visitor are expected to come and learn from our programs. Encourage parents to join us.

Dr. Tommy Schmolze

- Introduced the new FMSD Leadership Academy. This is professional development program for Principals, Assistant Principals, Teacher Leaders and eventually Student Leaders. Watch FMSD website for more details.
- Addressed the school start times for middle school & high schools. Parents & teachers have brought concerns to FMSD about high school students losing instructional time during 4th block to get to after school functions with sports, band, etc. His office is looking at different school start times- flipping middle school and high school start times. Still need to investigate how this will impact transportation, etc. Will come to board with a recommendation in the next couple of months.
- Addressed parent concern about lack of traffic light at Coltharp and Pleasant Rd. He said that unfortunately, FMSD has no say in where traffic lights are installed. That comes from SCDOT and traffic studies. Another parent suggested that we can visit SCDOT website and file suggestion for a light.

Brian Spittle:

- Discussed middle school 1-1 computer device to student that was passed with last referendum. In March through May of 2019, this program will be piloted at BTMS. All middle schools will be 1-1 by next year. Added that devices will not leave campus or go home with students.

Kristy Spears:

- Suggested we take a consensus of parent opinion. She asked Kellie Hoover of TCES PTO to tell group about the section of turf the PTO purchased for the playground area & its benefits. Is this beneficial to other elementary schools? Only so much maintenance money in budget. Currently slotted for landscaping, drive way repair, etc on wide variety of schools. Do we need to put turf project or maybe sunshades, or something else that is individualized to each school as higher priority? Asking which one?

Tom Buckley

- Addressed parent concern on reporting of 4 kids per seat for one of our elementary school buses. He responded that 3 per seat for elementary is acceptable per manufacturing capacity. As school year proceeds, bus routes are reevaluated and adjusted. Time changes are made in an effort to allow timely manner pick up and drop off. Struggling with infrastructure and traffic. Seat Belts: SC does not mandate use of seat belts on schools. We own 55 buses. Manufacturing recommends middle school and high school students per seats: 3 per seat

Rich Todd:

- Introduction of the FMSD Safety and Emergency Services Coordinator

Dr. Mike Waiksnis

- Discussed current evaluation of middle school GT program. Considering discontinuing GT Social Studies and Science. The curriculum is the same as grade level Social Studies and Science. Currently, if students qualify for GT in either verbal or quantitative skills testing (and other testing not listed) they are placed in comprehensive GT program for all areas of study, not just in areas they qualified for. Middle school GT placement for social studies and science does not factor into placement of honors or AP classes in high school because the curriculum is the same as grade level classes. Dr. Waiksnis welcomes further discussion and parental input as he continues to evaluate the program.