

**Maggie L. Walker Governor's School  
for Government and International Studies School**

**Student Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 1, 2015, 7:30 a.m., Boardroom, Room 230**

**Present: Chamie Valentine, Leslie Hausser, Kristina McCullough, Jewel Craven, Peggy Feldman, Dr. Jeff McGee, Ethan Cruikshank, Dawn Grois, Hanna Reed, Kerry Sheppard, Zachary Troidle, Phil Tharp, Paige Hawkins**

Welcome and Call to Order (Chamie Valentine)

- I. Approval of the October 1, 2015 Agenda – 7:31am
- II. Approval of the September 15, 2015 Minutes
- III. Director's Report (Jeff McGee)
  - a. Junior Class trip – James River Bus Lines has shown some trepidation traveling north on Friday for the Junior Class field trip (cancelled last year due to snow)
  - b. Fall Festival is next Friday, October 9, 2015 Rain date is October, 16, 2015
  - c. Interims go out on October 9, 2015
  - d. Middle School visits have started; approximately 27 have been scheduled
- IV. Chairman's Report (Chamie Valentine)
  - a. By-Laws are final and complete and approved by the School Advisory Council – 7:37am
  - b. Dr. McGee said the by-laws were approved at the Strategic Planning Committee
  - c. Peggy Feldman, PTSA President and Dr. Jeff McGee presented updates on their potential members being added to SAC
  - d. Dabney Carr has requested to be released from his commitment on SAC
  - e. The Planning Committee appointment needs to be one member to replace Anthony Washington and this will take place at the October 13, 2015 meeting.
- V. Old Business
  - A. Regional School Board (RSB) Approval of By-Laws
  - B. Officer Election – New Chair – approved 7:42am
  - C. Membership Update
    - Peggy Feldman, PTSA president, to present updates on approved members Eric Lowell and Maureen Moslow-Benway and pending updates on 2 other new members as well as the potential member status with the Richmond School Board.
    - Jeff McGee's appointment Beth Bortz as his third board member appointee for a one year term. She will be presented to the RSB at the October meeting for approval.
  - D. SAC Website Update (Virginia Chambers, Ethan Cruikshank) They are waiting for the board membership to be finalized to complete the web site information.
- VI. New Business

A. SAC Meeting Dates for 2015-2016 – approved 7:49

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|-------------------------|---------------------|
| a. Thursday, November 5 | e. Tuesday, March 1 |
| b. Tuesday, December 1  | f. Tuesday, April 5 |
| c. Tuesday, January 5   | g. Tuesday, May 3   |
| d. Tuesday, February 2  | h. Tuesday, June 7  |

- Leslie will be sending out an invite to all members so that everyone will have the dates to help with clarity.

B. Grading Scale Sub-Committee

- Goal # 3 of the approved Strategic Planning Committee proposes that the school “Study the grading scale and grade weighting of all MLWGS courses (i.e., Honors, Dual-enrollment, and AP) as it pertains to incentivizing students and develop a recommendation to the planning committee, superintendents, and School Board. Market all MLWGS electives to students in an equitable manner. Inform students of all rigorous courses, including rigorous faculty-developed courses, during the “Advanced Studies Options” presentations to students.”
- A number of neighboring districts have shifted to a 10-point scale. Is the current grade “bump” performing as it was originally intended? What is best for our students and MLWGS?
- Members should get in touch with Leslie Hausser if their interested in participating on the committee.

C. Global Outreach Sub-Committee Update (Kristi McCullough)

- Teachers indicated they wanted links to some travel options made available – pending approval from Dr. McGee
- Kristi McCullough has submitted some material for publication in the next *Smoke and Scales* issue regarding updated travel options
- A travel page for the website has been proposed. Dr. McGee said that a new link on the “Academics” page of the MLWGS website could be added. Currently, only the school-approved trips can be advertised on this site. Chamie Valentine suggested that a note be added that indicates that non-school sponsored trips may be available, but the school is not endorsing it. Parents would then be told to reach out privately to teachers/sponsors/organizers for information about their trips.
- Kristi McCullough will reach out to Wendy DeGroat to get teacher feedback for more materials in the library
- Kristi has suggested bringing in outside music groups. Dr. McGee suggested she speak to Barbara Marshall to coordinate facility use, and Leslie Hausser indicated Kristi should speak with Karl Von Klein and the Music Boosters for input.
- Leslie Hausser would like one more board member to assist Kristi McCullough as Dabney Carr was part of this sub-committee.

D. Calendar Subcommittee Update (Phil Tharp)

- The process for this will start in November. Draft calendars will start appearing from our largest divisions, and once those are in hand...the vetting process will

commence. Phil Tharp would appreciate around 5 members to assist with this process. Jewel Caven will continue as a board member on this sub-committee.

- E. Dress Code Subcommittee Update (Phil Tharp)
  - a. The dress code needs to be updated to edit any language that reflects gender-specific items. (ex. Change “blouse” to “shirt”). It will be voted on by the Regional School Board in February. It was discussed the rules are in writing, but they need to be enforced.
- F. Marketing Subcommittee Update
  - a. Leslie Hausser circulated the outline for the MLWGS promotional video (this was approved by the Council last year).
  - b. It was discussed this video would potentially be used at Middle School visits, Open House, and/or Shadow Days.
  - c. Dr. McGee will be meeting with David Holland and Todd Raviotta the week of October 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss this further with the possibility of using the videography class to assist with the logistics in developing the video.

THANK YOU TO CHAMIE VALENTINE FOR HER SERVICE AS CHAIRPERSON  
Adjournment: 8:27am