

Sarasota Military Academy
School Advisory Council Meeting

February 17, 2010

Attendance: Terry Lipman, Col. Cork, Dan Kennedy, Gale Downs, Vera McClaugherty, Ross Moore, Graciela Romero, Kevin Houghtaling, Kevin Easton, Kris Howard, Keith Daly, Denise Spetsios, Lynda Fischer, Joshua Payne, Deborah Herbert, Louis Fischer, John Conlon, Nolan Easton, Meaghan Easton, Ken Cowles.

Meeting was called to order by Terry Lipman, chair 7:45 a.m.

The January minutes: were accepted with a first motion by Lynda Fischer and seconded by Joshua Payne.

Headmasters Report: Greeting by Col. Cork a fill in for Mr. Kennedy at this time. Our enrollment is very strong and we are still giving Tuesday Prospective student Orientations. The March referendum outcome will have a huge impact on charter schools in the Sarasota County. All are encouraged to talk to your friends and families about taking the time and vote. SMA very much depends on the 16% of the funding should this referendum not pass, we will be get and if it does not pass we will be scaling back our special programs and looking into many reductions. Please take the time to vote.

Old Business: We are having a very productive school year. We had a visitor on campus to speak with us about an opportunity to be part of the Confucius Institute from China. Our program could be under the USF umbrella. The program is sponsored by Hanban Headquarters in partnership with College Board and National Council of State Supervisors for Languages (NCSSFL) It represents a unique opportunity for students and communities to learn Chinese language and authentic Chinese culture. The guest teacher's salary is partially subsidized by Hanban: we can pilot or expand our Chinese program with reasonable cost. This could be a great asset to SMA.

New Business: Member Deborah Herbert passed out a fact sheets regarding the detailing the IB Diploma program. We reviewed the pros and cons of bringing the program to SMA. At this time we feel we are right on target with the dual enrolment college coerces and our AP classes to reflect an inter-cultural and global influence opportunity. We may revisit the IB Diploma program idea in the future. We are working on a Gifted program and the services we can offer to our students. We are examining our current SABRE program to fit the needs. We have brought all the IEP's up to date.

We are in the process of getting Fiber optics lines brought to the campus. This would open a lot of doors for us including have the PALS computer sign up process and Trakker to name a few.

Lacrosse Coach Ken Cowles and co chair reported on a great program that encourages good sportsmanship. The Positive Coaching Alliance has a motto Be Loud, Be Proud, Be Positive. Cheering for the home team and the opposing team is promoted. Ken Cowles is having banners made for the LaCrosse field and for our campus.

A motion for adjournment was made by Joshua Payne and seconded by John Conlon.

Next meeting: Wednesday March 24, 2010 (note the 4th Wednesday of March)

Minutes submitted by Gale Downs