

# *Monarch High School*



## SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES September 7, 2010

### Welcome

Ms. Jusevic called the meeting to order at 4:20 PM

### Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Jusevic led the Pledge of Allegiance

### Review of Minutes

The minutes for the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as read.

### Principal's Report

Mr. Neer reported that five teachers were surplus last year. Of those five, three were laid off. Fortunately, all teachers were placed in other schools and are doing well. Currently our student population is above the projection, which means teachers that would have been otherwise surplus have been spared. Students of large classes of thirty, have been shifted to other classes in order to help keep the student teacher ratio set by the state.

Mr. Neer also discussed the school's FCAT scores with parents. FCAT scores were significantly higher than last year with a fifty-four percent learning gain in the lower ninth and tenth grade reading levels. There was also an increase of nine points from last year's score in writing. More factors that affect the school's overall grade will be released in November. Based on the projections presented thus far, the school's score is ranged somewhere between a high B, to a possible A.

The school website has been undergoing renovations. New features include Applause, Vodcast, and an Activity Calendar with major school events posted on it. Vodcast and Applause are both designed to highlight student achievements. Applause can be viewed online as well as on the 'Computer sculpture' designed by our own technology students.

Mr. Neer reported a trend between higher-level students and what he called "AP apathy". He noted there is apathy on the students' part toward regarding AP classes and achieving high scores on AP exams in general. Mrs. Bradford mentioned that many students that she has spoken to do not understand the importance of scoring well on these test, nor the many benefits that accompany them (scholarships, etc). Some parents had suggestions on strategies to help students get the information that they need in the early years of high school so that they may be properly equipped with the necessary tools for success in their post secondary plans. It has been suggested that SAC create a sub committee to manage, and plan strategies to help parents assist their children in meeting their post-secondary goals. The creation of this subcommittee is still being discussed.

### Chair's Report

Ms. Jusevic informed parents of the Education Trust Fund Workshop which discussed funds to reduce class sizes as well as restore school directed jobs that were lost due to the budget cuts last year. Programs such as ESE, Title 1 will take first priority.

### Old Business

No old business to report.

### New Business

SAC will be meeting every first Tuesday of the month, except for November 9. A detailed calendar will be generated in October.

Mrs. Thompson presented the Discipline Plan for the 2010-2011 school year. Emphasis is heavily placed on attendance and tardies. The plan will be carried out through a detailed point system that will be used toward school activities such as prom, homecoming, etc.

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Ms. Jusevic suggested that the rules of the point system be placed on the school website for all parents and students to access. A meeting will be held soon between the Discipline Committee and SAC to discuss the new discipline plan, and to find strategies of communication to keep parents informed of their child's progress in light of this new discipline policy.

## Forming Nominating Committee

Please send all nominations for the new SAC committee to either Ms. Victoria or Ms. Gray.

Other members of the committee are:  
Ari Baker-student representative

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.