Liberty Pines Academy

**School Advisory Council**

**May 14th, 2024**

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**Welcome and Introductions:**

Members present: Donny Hoessler, Stephanie Lowrie, Ivette Bridenbaugh, Pamela Hazel, Raquel McAlee, Pavitra Varghese, Jeff Chapman, Gomati Sutaria. Online: Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. O’Leary.

Ms. Lowrie called the meeting to order 4:02 pm motioned by Jeff Chapman.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The current available balance is $26,358.53. Deposited. Almost $300.000 dollars. Leftover $35,092.36. SAC budget after decodables: $7,120.53.

**New Business:**

Mrs. Bridenbaugh is asking for a grant to go to a math conference in Orlando. New methods for students and new practices to share at PLC. Amount: About $200. Registration, parking, meals, etc.

Mr. Hoessler agrees it will be worthwhile.

Motion to approve: Pavitra Varghese. Second: Jeff Chapman

Mr. McAlee would like the exact amount to approve.

Mr. Hoessler: “Not to exceed $400”. Max amount.

**Old Business:**

SAC Surveys were administered and closed.

**Principal’s Updates:**

Mr. Hoessler distributed survey results. Presented about positives and areas of growth.

**Student feedback:** 840 responses compared to 400 last year. **Pros**: High quality education, feel welcome, trust, following rules, club participation, office staff is kind and helpful. **Cons:** disagree that discipline is followed in all classrooms, no involvement in service organizations, disagree on effectiveness on bullying policies, homework is ineffective, media center access not enough, lacking opportunities to improve the school. **Hoessler’s comments on student feedback:** Consistencies across classrooms regarding some teachers being more lenient is a challenge. Fairness across the board is needed. We need more volunteer opportunities outside of NJHS initiatives. Bullying- doesn’t always meet definition of bullying when kids report it. Homework practices need to be more purposeful. Media center is usually for elementary resource but trying to get middle schoolers more access to it. PBIS efforts growing.

**Parent feedback:** 258 responses. **Pros:** High quality education. Safe. Effective communication. Teachers/Admin accessible and responsive. Student needs are met in core subjects. Feel welcomed on campus. Cons: Not seeing students volunteer. Bullying policies (22 disagree). Technology usage for assignments. Guidance department meets needs (only 15 disagree). **Hoessler comments:** Focusing in PBIS, character, minimizing students mistreating each other is the goal. Increase technology use in classrooms. Dreambox, Lexia, typing, summatives online, etc.

**Faculty Feedback:** 76 responses compared to 17 last year. **Pros:** Guidance/Media meets needs. High quality education, admin available, character ed is emphasized. Cons: Help with learning technology tools, school rules need to apply to all, need more planning time, effectiveness of bullying policies. Hoessler’s comments: We are maximizing planning time, cant always pass out discipline and suspend kids, we need them in school with a teacher guiding them. Discipline is often private and not advertised.

**Discussion:** Volunteering for family nights (PTO),Spirit Nights to bring community together, grade level service projects, sponsoring another school to give back, linking PTO and SAC, SAC fliers given at meet the teacher to raise awareness and participation.

**School Recognition Funds:** 5 votes for $20 option, 15 votes for $500 to instructional only, and majority voted for option 3- splitting funds across all staff. Motion to approve: Pavitra Varghese. Second: Raquel McAlee.

Ms. Lowrie asked a motion to be made to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 pm.