

Advisory 9.17.24

In attendance: Mrs. Harrison, Ms. Allen, Ms. Scali, Ms. Nieto, Ms. Salvatore, Ms. Brown, Ms. Oyebanjo, Ms. Coster, Ms. Hartman, Ms. Lint, Ms. Sambiasse, Ms. Massey

Introductions

Budget: Smaller this year. We're funded on a per pupil basis. We're down about 50 students from last year. We have three classes of fifth, fourth, third, second and two classes of first and kindergarten. Depending on the September 30 count, Ms. Harrison is hoping to get a teacher assistant to run the Maker's Space.

Continuous Improvement Plan: Commitments that the superintendent targets for us to work on-Learning and Commitment for All. This year focusing on EL and special education students reading scores. Absenteeism is also a target. For community standards we are working on improving our Advisory Council targets.

Advisory Council By-laws. Started discussion last year. Wanted to wait for this year because the guidelines from the county were changing for this year. Minimal changes.

Increasing number of clubs and activities for our students. We are trying to get the robotics team back up and running. It will be Wednesdays after school. Goal is to participate in the Spring Competition. Another parent is interested in starting a chess club. This will be run after school so that BHS kids will be able to help. A teacher is wanting to start up a 24 Club. It is a math game.

Multicultural Night-23 countries represented and we had a fair to share about all these countries. This year it will be on October 25. Mr. Sarican and Ms. Straabhaur (MVES alum parents) and two staff members will be helping get this running. Would like to advertise that this is a PAC event. Also-ask teachers to promote the event as well, not just in the Cougar Chat.

PAWS with the Principal-a parent meeting with Ms. Harrison to talk and share information. Three dates already set for this year. Maybe PAC can talk about topics that they think would be good to discuss. First one is scheduled for October 29.

There will be a literacy night in October. This will coincide with the book fair. It will help explain the Virginia Literacy Night.

Theme this year-Cougars Lead the Way

Ms. Brown: Would be helpful if parents knew the importance of the absenteeism push. Parents should know this so that they schedule vacations differently.

Last year we discussed MVES becoming a specialty school for STEM. Would like to continue that conversation this year.

Open Chair Time: How to get new families more involved. New family welcome meeting? Something to help them feel welcomed. A suggestion is to move Multicultural Night up.

Next meeting October 15, 2024 at 4:30