

# GILCHRIST SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DATE: January 23, 2024 TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Media Center

Attendance							
Teacher/Staff Members		Parent Members		Partner Members		Guests	
Scotty Crowe	P	Denis Burns	P	Abby Vail	A	Anna Ross	P
Rosie Wyatt	P	Caroline Weiss	P			Debra Wiggins	P
Cheryl Mitchell	P	Alyene Calvo	P			Heather Pearce	T
Diana Haverlah	P	Breana Giblin	P				
Kelli Willis	T	Eva Horton	P				
Lauren Holley	P	Hillary Speed	P				
		Vanessa Bell	P				
		Ali Palmer	A				

P = Present in person, T = Present on Teams, A = Absent

## 2023-2024 SAC Officers

Chair: Denis Burns

Vice Chair: Breana Giblin

Recording Secretary: Alyene Calvo

DAC Rep: Kelli Willis

## **1) Welcome & Voting – Denis Burns:**

- a. Approval of 11/14/23 SAC minutes (Denis Burns):
  - i. Alyene Calvo moved to approve the minutes, Eva Horton seconded, all were in favor.
- b. A+ School Recognition Funds (Debbie Wiggins):
  - i. Gilchrist is an A+ school again!! Gilchrist tied for first place with Hawk's Rise Elementary. We are so proud of the kids, teachers, and the community – this does not come easily.
  - ii. Since last year was the first year of a new test, originally the schools would receive grades but no bonus funds; however, it was decided to provide the schools with the bonus money.
  - iii. Ballot was quickly created on how the money would be distributed between instructional and non-instructional staff. The outcome of the vote was to divide the money equally.
  - iv. Exact amount is not yet known as Legislature is currently in session; however, the school used last year's amount to estimate.
  - v. Caroline Weiss moved to approve the equal allocation of the bonus dollars. Eva Horton seconded, all were in favor.
  - vi. The scores represent proficiency scores (are students on or above grade level) but this year it will also include growth and gains.

**2) PTO President's Message – Caroline Weiss, PTO President:**

- a. Accomplishments:
  - i. Faculty meetings – the Chairs hit it out of the park this year!
  - ii. Cookie Exchange happened in December and Teachers received their classroom gift cards for the Great Grizzly Run money.
  - iii. Tomorrow Donuts with Grownups - trying one day this year to see what happens. This will also be the grand opening for PE covering. Superintendent Hanna will be here.
  - iv. February: The Mobile Auction will launch and be open for 8 days. Last year was a big success!
  - v. Sweetheart Soiree will be Taylor Swift themed.
  - vi. Spring Book Fair and Grandparents week coming soon. There will be signups for parents to help seat grandparents.
  - vii. Teacher appreciation week is pushing to March (after Spring Break) to not conflict with the STEAM carnival.
  - viii. Field Day Olympics is coming soon.
- b. Scotty Crowe: We cannot thank PTO and the parents enough – they spoiled our teachers before the break. Gift cards were provided for the teachers for classroom purchases. Special areas also received funds to replenishing and upgrading their areas - that was huge!

**3) DAC Report – Kelli Willis:**

- a. Discussed the following topics:
  - i. Upcoming events for the high schools.
  - ii. Legislative review as session has started on January 9 and will end in March.
  - iii. Employment issues, decertification for teachers.
  - iv. Finances, purchasing issues, and facilities.
  - v. Foundation for LCS (Eric Clark) - Raised a lot of money to help schools.
  - vi. Littles to Leaders for early literacy. Goal for expansion on the work that Whole Child Leon is doing.
  - vii. Mental health updates in schools - 20% of students experience MH issues. Leon County now has 15 school psychologists and 2 mental health professionals.

**4) School Safety Updates – Cheryl Mitchell:**

- a. Planning for 2nd round of bus evacuation drills that will start tomorrow – instructions have been provided to teachers.
- b. There are two emergency drills for February.
- c. Superintendent has put out directive for all doors, both interior and exterior, to be locked. Audits can occur unannounced.
- d. Attendance: we are at a 94% average daily attendance. We try to encourage schools to focus on that. An attendance committee meets every week to go through all of the unexcused absences and tardies. The goal for the state and district is 90%.

**5) Data Updates - Anna Ross:**

- a. Anna Ross covered overall data in presentation.
- b. Student learning gains will start being factored into accountability report. They have added proficiency for 3rd graders.
- c. All grades increased proficiency in Language Arts. We expect a lot more growth at the end of the year as well.
- d. The Whole School number averages 3-5.
- e. K-2 showing great growth as well.
- f. Upcoming dates:
  - i. PM3 - 4th & 5th = April 2 & 3.
  - ii. ELA May 7
  - iii. Math May 8
  - iv. Science 5th - May 14

6) **Gilchrist Spotlight: Threat Assessment Protocol – Heather Pearce:**

- a. Last year, DOE developed a state-wide threat assessment process and they have now revamped it. This was put into place from legislature starting January 1<sup>st</sup> and everyone has been trained.
- b. Changed the Threat Assessment team that triage threats, Ms. Mitchell is chair and Heather is Vice Chair.
- c. If we get a call from a teacher, the TA team will go through it first to determine if it is Unfounded, Low, Medium, and High.
  - i. If it is Unfounded, we don't go any further beyond intake.
  - ii. If it is Low - meet as a team if we need to if we need safety/support plan. Support plan is monitored for 90 calendar days.
  - iii. If it is Medium/High – we are required to have support plan and meet with the team. The 4 members of the team consist of counseling, academics, administrator, and law enforcement (SRO). The support plan for Medium monitored for 180 days and for High is monitored for a whole year. The plans have to be monitored during summer so we must keep contact with the students/family.
  - iv. If the team doesn't know the student, may have a teacher fill out questionnaire for more background.
- d. We are putting a premium on early intervention / monitoring. We have come a long way with MH support.

7) **Gilchrist Spotlight: Black History Month – Cheryl Mitchell:**

- a. Calendar of events planned starting Feb. 1.
  - i. We will conduct our Black History trivia over the news. Ms. Ford does this with Ms. Mitchell. Thursday we will have students come on the news with them. Special thanks to the PTO who have funded this activity!
  - ii. We have come up with a cute T-shirt for the staff to wear every Friday. The theme is "Celebrating Black History Through the Arts."

- iii. We will have an assembly with a faculty song, steel drummers from RAA, RAA dancers, baton group, and Ms. Berry has a singing group that will perform. Also have faculty luncheon close to the end of the month.

8) **Principal's Message – Scotty Crowe:**

- a. February 6<sup>th</sup> is Blaze Pizza Share Night.
- b. February 9<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Volunteer Breakfast from 7:45am-8:30am – it's a small way to say thank you and we appreciate you!
- c. March 5<sup>th</sup> is the Spring Share Night at Skate World.

Denis Burns thanked the group and Alyene Calvo moved to adjourn at 7:03, seconded by Eva Horton.