

9-16-2021 CGS Governing Board Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

- Superintendents - Dr. Scott Baker, Dr. Rob Benson
- Board Members - Mr. John Copeland, Dr. Sarah Chase, Dr. Lorita C. Daniels
- Other - Mrs. Karen Foster, Dr. Tom Nichols, Dr. Stephenie Fellingner, Mrs. Kristine Lentz-Johnston, Mrs. Jennifer Grigsby, Mrs. Maggie Morganti, Mrs. Heidi Robison
- Absent - Mr. T.C. Collins, Dr. Stanley Jones, Dr. Sarah Calveric

Prior to official start to meeting - Occurred at 4:11pm

- Introduction of CGS Counselor
 - Developing the program for CGS, looking at the social and emotional needs of our students. Goal to help support the other schools/counseling. One-on-one meetings with students. Probation meetings with teacher, student, parents, home base counselor, CGS counselor and director. Identifying how students can succeed.
 - Visit all 9th grade classes and discuss study skills and stress management. Working on a similar lesson for 10th grade CGS students.
 - Parent Zoom presentation (September 15, 2021) on scholarships and merit based aid. Over 100 parents attended.
 - A future needs assessment survey to identify students' needs will be upcoming.
- Questions/Comments
 - Thank you for the presentation from Dr. Daniels; some students are using the Google Form others are emailing directly when in need of additional support from the counselor.

Call to order - Occurred at 4:17pm

Roll Call - 4:17pm - Quorum with 3 present board members and 1 absent

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of September 16, 2021 Agenda

- Agenda approved with the removal of the Counselor report since it happened prior to the meeting starting.
- Dr. Daniels motion to approve agenda amended by removing counselor report, second Dr. Chase, motion carries 3-0 **(9:54 of recording)**

Citizen Comments

- none

Board Members' Comments

- Stafford County Schedule change announced by Dr. Chase with a request to work on timing for students.

Superintendents' Comments

- Dr. Baker recognized Mrs. Morganti's tremendous work with students and acknowledged her as a great counselor.

Program Counselor's Report - prior to meeting start

Director's Report

- Introduction - H. Robison - Regional Manager
- Past and Upcoming Events -
 - New Student Orientation - started at each site then came to Riverbend High School. 152/173 = 88% participated
 - Fall Social - discussion whether to allow CGS PTO to hold events. Belvedere Plantation, outdoor, parents provide transportation, voluntary activity, students pay for the event, suggested allowing students to use their tickets for any other day if event is cancelled. After discussion and realizing it is an outdoor event with safety mitigations in place, three out of four counties approved the event. Ms. Grigsby will ask the PTO to plan late in October.
 - Field Experiences:
 - Williamsburg - 8/26 mask on buses & inside buildings - AP U.S. History
 - Honors Algebra II - 9/15 Problem solving workshop 3 sites
 - MacBeth - American Shakespeare Center in Staunton requiring vaccination or negative test. Discuss options for facility requirements, testing, bus requirement, masking, etc. Decision is to not attend and will look at it again in the future as school based guidelines change. **(37:20 of recording)**
 - Upcoming:
 - Canoeing (mask required) - Sept & Oct dates
 - Physics Workshop - 2 sites - Stafford and Riverbend High School
 - Orienteering in Locust Grove Park - October
 - MacBeth - Cancelled after discussion about theatre's requirement of vaccination or negative test
 - Back to School
 - Aug 9 - King George and Stafford County
 - Aug 12 - Spotsylvania County
 - Aug 16 - Caroline County - Thank you to Caroline for providing transportation for students that had to attend class a week prior to the official Caroline County opening date.
 - Bell schedule change for Stafford High School - Adjustment for regional broadcast times will be made with the new shift in bell schedule for the entire region, and there will be a change in start and travel times for Stafford County students.
 - Observations and post observation conferences - October thru January

- Teachers are thankful to be back in class and are working hard to meet needs of students.
- Gifted Endorsement Cohort - Currently, 19% of CGS teachers/staff have the gifted endorsement. We have 11 faculty participating in the graduate course work to become licensed. All school divisions are reimbursing staff for certification per division policies. When this group finishes in 2023, 51% of faculty will be endorsed. New cohort is planned to start next year.
- Diversity Training - 2 hour session during CGS work week and also starting a book study with “Culturing Responsive Teaching in Gifted Education”
- CGS Website - Under construction, goal to streamline, any problems let Heidi know
- AYGS - director meetings quarterly, AYGS PLC meeting between AYGS programs across the state to improve network of resources
- Student-Faculty Ratio
 - (FY21) - 22 to 1
 - (FY22) - 21 to 1
 - Target per the VDOE is 15 to 1

Informational Items

- Approval of Consent Agenda - May 2021 and June 2021
 - Dr. Chase 1st, Dr. Daniels second - motion carries 3-1 (56:29 on recording)
- VDOE Evaluation & Letter from Dr. Donna Poland
 - Nothing changed on the Final Evaluation letter. Evaluation once every six years with mid-cycle update at the 3 year mark. Letter in packet.
- Adjustments to Culminating Course Implementation
 - Students & other stakeholders have given feedback on the Culminating course.
 - Started a new model for Culminating utilizing inter-sessions in 2021-2022
 - Each intersession is 3 to 4 days, and students only have Culminating course and no other CGS classes or assignments. Students are getting immediate feedback from teachers as they complete assignments.
 - The first inter-session went well, and anecdotal reports are that students are liking the change. A formal survey will be given at the midpoint of the year and again at the end.
 - Inter-session schedule includes October, January, and March for all students. Seniors finish Culminating in April and Grades 9-11 finish in May.
 - Traditional Wednesday Culminating time went back to classes with an even disbursement between subject areas. Wednesday is still a flex schedule as most guest speakers, field experiences, and interdisciplinary projects/sessions are scheduled on Wednesdays.
- Final FY22 Budget
 - Final FY22 Budget will be based on finalized September 30, 2021 Enrollment and approved at the October 2021 meeting.
 - In the budget discussion, Mr. Copeland asked to have one more column added for actual expenses.
 - Difference in projected final budget is due to enrollment decrease from 624 to 597 students. Reduction will be pulled from purchased services, technology maintenance, and instructional supplemental funds.

Meeting Adjournment

- motion to adjourn at 5:26pm by Dr. Chase, second Dr. Daniels, motion carries 3-0 (1:14:00 of recording)

Next Meeting

- Thursday, October 21, 2021 4:00pm Stafford SBO Executive Session Conference Room 31
Stafford Avenue, Stafford, VA 22554