

## **School Improvement Council**

Friday, November 22, 2024

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

### Members/Guests:

Cameron Brice- Principal, Demond Criss- Program Director, Bonnie Barr- PTA President/Parent, Katrina Wofford- West Greenville, Sherlen Crawford- AJ parent/Outreach, Johanna Hartmann- Teacher, Dr. Byron Battle- Pastor Tabernacle Baptist Church, Bryan Hayes- Boys and Girls Club

### **Goals**

- Reading program ideas: in the past we have had buddy reading with volunteers/mentors. Looking to continue that, but need more volunteers.
  - Teaching reading approaches are changing so we are looking into new possible ways to support our students.
- Discussed possible times of the day to have reading support (during the school day takes away the transportation issues.) Possibility to meet in the morning with students to start the day in a positive way. Engaging and fun learning for students that may not get extra support at home, or may be discouraged with reading.
- Ms. Crawford will meet with school counselor about contacting mentors to generate a pool of people to utilize with buddy reading and skill groups.
- Touch base with teachers to provide ways to help students in the classroom and offer tools for the volunteers to have key things to focus on while reading with students.
- In the past, we have reached out to Kroc for volunteers. Mr. Brice will touch base with the counselor to see about doing this again. Kroc has the experience supporting our kids because of the afterschool program. AJ can help bridge that gap from classroom to after school hours.
- In the weeks ahead, we will have teachers identify students for the buddy program. In the past, we focus on a specific grade. Usually lower grades because of the importance of foundational skills.
- In the past we have had 5th graders read to younger grades. The way we have managed in the past is using the opportunity as an incentive for 5th grade student.
  - 5th grader may go to former teacher classroom
- We have a book room with leveled text in addition to the media center for book resources.
- Another thing we have done to support literacy is our Book of the Month and include activities and tie into social emotional goals.
- Working with our media specialist in order to support students. What are some things we can do to help promote literacy for academic support?
- Ask teachers to identify students that may not have as many opportunities to read and have support outside of school. (1st and 2nd graders)
- Brainstorm possible ways to bridge the phonics program that our students are learning to mentors and buddy readers.

- Next steps:
  - Have teachers to identify students that would benefit from connection before school or reading buddy.
  - Secure volunteers and communicate expectations
  - Looking to begin the program in January. Possibly one volunteer to two students with similar ability level. Idea to rotate students every 4 weeks or so.
  - December 16th-17th to see how many volunteers we have at that time.
  - Will send forms home in January to let parents know about the program once students are identified. Start one day all first grade and second day all 2nd graders.

## **Comments**

### **Review assignments and agenda for the next meeting**

- Next meeting: January 16th at 8:30

## **Adjourn**