

**Smith Middle School
School Improvement Team
Monday, September, 24, 2018
Smith Media Center, 4:30-5:30 p.m.**

SIT Members in ATTENDANCE:

Faculty Co-Chair: Lori Clark
Parent Co-Chair: Rachael DiSantostefano
Faculty/Staff Members: Ryan Kulikowski, Matthew Bello
Parent Members: Liane Carneiro, Becky Lee, Kavita Rajagopal, Ranee Montgomery
Administration: Stephon Goode, Spencer Hawkins
Student Members: TBD

ACTIONS

- Stephon to decide whether or not to make talking points on 'recess'
- Oct 5: Stephon to send out the SIP for review (once it has cleared faculty and staff review).
- Oct 8: Next meeting planned to review SIP.
- Stephon to identify student members and additional teacher member.

SUMMARY OF AGENDA DISCUSSION

1. Introductions (RD) – 10 min
Meeting was called to order at 4:30. Introductions were made so that everyone could become acquainted.
2. Role / Objectives of the SIT for 2018 (SG) – 10 min
Stephon Goode reviewed the role of the SIT, ostensibly to serve as a consulting/advisory role to the principal relating to topics in the School Improvement Plan. The principal ultimately makes decisions and runs the school in accordance to what he thinks is best for students. Sometimes these decisions may not be in line with opinions of members of the SIT.
3. Principal's Report / School Improvement Plan (SG) – 15 min
Stephon explained the basics of the School Improvement Plan, and its contents. Much of the contents are pre-specified in terms of goals, but the 'how to get there' is left open for the school administrators, teachers, and staff to contribute solutions. This year will be the first year we will move from 'No Child left Behind' to Essa, which has a specific set of growth and proficiency goals for students.

Oct 8: We will meet as a 'special' meeting of the SIT to review, discuss, and endorse the SIP. This fits into the timeline of getting the SIP to a series of reviewers by end of the month.

4. Future meeting dates (RD) – 5 min
Future meeting dates will remain on Mondays.
5. Public Comment (Public) -10 min
There is a lot of community consternation and misinformation about recess and what is happening at Smith. Stephon explained the factors that have resulted in the move away from 'recess' (activity time). Smith was one of the last middle schools to do away with this activity. While Stephon (who has a degree relating to physical education) recognizes the importance of exercise, this goal will be achieved via other means and within the federal guidelines. Unfortunately, this time will be absorbed by increased instructional time including tailoring it to what individual students need. Student growth and proficiency are a greater priority than the benefits of activity time. The academic needs assessment was on-going at

the time of the Sept SIT meeting, based on the hurricane and flash flood days missed. All students will have a needs assessment and the activity time will be used to target needs for all students.

6. Any other business –(All) 5 min
NA.
7. Adjournment : Meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.