

School Council Meeting Minutes: 11/4/2021

Date: 11.4.2021

Meeting Time: 4:00 PM

Meeting Location: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

Meeting Called By: Evelyn James and J. Mark Smith

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Principal: J. Mark Smith

Note Taker: Sawyer Henderson

Council Members: Mark Smith, Amy Williamson, Sawyer Henderson, Robert Mitchell, Shanell Lightfoot, Matt McKenna, Evelyn James, Brittany Cooper, Amino Borrero, Jalayna Maina

Guest Attendees: Adam Johnson

Agenda Items:

Time: 15 Minutes

Topic: YouScience Discussions

Presenter: Adam Johnson

Discussion:

- Mr. Johnson provided an overview and showed a video that introduced the online website YouScience, which students will be using to determine aptitudes and interests that help them see what careers may be aligned to their aptitudes/interests.
- By engaging in the YouScience platform, students will be meeting the requirements outlined by the Georgia BridgeBill requirements.
- Ms. Lightfoot asked if race and gender were included in (or influenced) scoring results. Mr. Smith shared that they are not aware if YouScience looks at these factors when scoring; Mr. Johnson will follow-up on this question.
- Mr. Smith clarified that CareerCruising was used in the past with older students, but all students will be using YouScience this year.
- Ms. James asked who would have access to this data besides the individual students? Mr. Johnson shared that guidance counselors, administrators, and parents have access to the results, at the moment.

Time: 15 Minutes

Topic: Welcome & Thank You/Since We Last Met

Presenter: J. Mark Smith

Discussion:

Mr. Smith presented the following updates to the Council:

- Over \$12,000 was raised for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital between Woodstock HS and Etowah HS at the annual Woodstock vs. Etowah football game
- Aura Castellanos was named WHS Support Staff Member of the Year
- The auxiliary gym floor is being put down as of this meeting; flooring was delayed due to production issues. The new gym will be used with Personal Fitness classes as well as restrooms for softball/baseball games
- Dana Dreaper was named Paraprofessional of the Year, and student Jacob Donnelly won Most Improved as sponsored by the WHS Optimist Club
- The Graduation Rate at WHS for SY 2020-2021 was 94.01 (the second highest rate in the county); CCSD as a district was 90.82; the Georgia average was 83.7, and the 5-year CCSD graduation rate was 92.33
- Presented the graduation rate by subgroups at WHS; mostly all subgroups had increased (no data was presented for students who identify as Indian, Asian, or Ecumenically Disadvantaged due to the fact that WHS did not have enough students to qualify for a subgroup for these categories).

Time: 15 Minutes

Topic: Q&A/General Discussion

Presenter: Council Members

Discussion:

- Q. Ms. James and Ms. Borrero asked about the status of bus drivers and substitutes in the county and if there was still a shortage.

A. Mr. Smith shared that with bus drivers, there is still a shortage and drivers are having to double-up in some cases; there are ongoing recruitment efforts (including a partnership with Woodstock First Baptist). In follow-up to Ms. Borrero's question about substitutes, Mr. Smith mentioned that the district had improved tremendously in the amount of subs available. At WHS, specifically, we have been blessed to have had the majority of our sub positions filled
- Q. Ms. Borrero asked for follow-up on if there have been any discipline problems at football games, specifically at the Etowah vs. Woodstock game?

A. Mr. Smith shared that he and Mr. Horn work together to ensure police officers are present on campuses overnight. Mr. Smith also spoke to some instances on social media that occurred, and discipline did occur when students can be identified.

- Q. Ms. Borrero asked about follow-up from Trunk or Treat.

A. Mr. Smith shared that from the community perspective, it seemed to be a great turnout; the tradition is planned to continue in the future.

- Q. Ms. James asked if there were any future collaborations planned between Woodstock and Etowah for community service or other activities.

A. Mr. Smith mentioned the St. Jude fundraiser but also said he would follow-up about spring opportunities.

- Q. Ms. Borrero asked about how teachers were doing.

A. Mr. Smith and Mr. Henderson spoke to seeing a rise in student absenteeism and course failures, probably due to the transition back to full face-to-face learning.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 PM.