

Hilltop Elementary School Council

December 5, 2023

The Hilltop Elementary School Council met in regular session on December 5, 2023, at 7:47 a.m. in the computer lab at the school.

School Council Members Present:

Dr. Ovedia Glover, Principal

Dara Seamans, Assistant Principal of Instruction

Jacqueline Hodges, Assistant Principal of Discipline

Sandy Sawyer, Teacher

Shannon Grieshop, Teacher

Amber Aldridge, Teacher

Pamela Clark, Teacher

Christie Baggett, Parent

Leah Aiken, Parent

Amanda Cobb, Parent

Call to Order

Amber Aldridge made a motion to call meeting to order at 7:47 am. Sandy Sawyer seconded the motion.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was let by Dara Seamans.

Welcome/Opening

Mrs. Seamans welcomed everyone to the meeting. The month is flying by. Thanksgiving went quickly and now it's December and the middle of the school year.

Mid-Year Assessments

- HCLI – This assessment is going on now. This is a reading assessment that all grades take to show where they are and how far they have come.
- IReady Diagnostics
 - January 2024 – This is the path for Math and Reading. We just finished a 4 week IReady Gobble Gobble Challenge. 1st grade won. 2nd grade came in second place. And 3rd grade was really close behind 2nd.
- MAPS (Growth) – This started yesterday in lower grades. It was wonderful walking around and teachers telling me that certain students exceeded their goal. Tomorrow the upper grades will

start. 3rd – 5th are taking the Milestones test at the same time this year, so this is going to be good practice for that. They did this assessment in August, but the groups have changed with dynamics and needs. Every student has a goal for Math, Reading, and Higher Language Usage. If students meet or exceed then they will get hot cocoa and A-1 gaming truck in January. PTO is helping with the reward. She had to explain to some what the gaming truck was. This is an incentive to work hard and meet your goal.

- MAP Reading Fluency
 - January 2024 – The students wear headphones and read into the computer. This gives data on phonics and comprehension. It lets teachers know where they need to work with the students.

- Write Score (3-5 grades)
 - January 2024

Georgia Milestones Spring Assessments

The schedule was recently sent from the testing department at the district.

MILESTONES EOG 3-5 SPRING 2024					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
April 29-May 3			ELA Section 1 (90 mins) Grades 3-5	ELA Section 2 (80 mins) Grades 3-5	ELA Section 3 (80 mins) Grades 3-5
May 6-10	Mathematics Section 1 (65 mins) Grades 3-5	Mathematics Section 2 (65 mins) Grades 3-5	Science Section 1 & 2 (40 mins/section) Grade 5	Make-Up Testing	Make-Up Testing
Make-Up testing may begin immediately following the main administration day					

Only 5th grade takes Science on the 8th. All grades 3-5 are taking the test on the same day. Make Up tests will be done along the way. We will have a parent night similar to last year providing information to parents about the test. There is also online practice assessments for parents and students. They have made some changes to them.

Proctors

We need to start getting feelers out for proctors. We will need about 16 proctors each day. That seems like a lot, but we will get it. Proctor training is different this year. There is a module they have to take. We do not have access to that yet. We will have that in January or February. Volunteers can reach out to Mrs. Seamans. Testing will be 6 days instead of 2-3 weeks. If you know anyone who would be interested send their name and number to Mrs. Seamans. The time will be 8:30 – 11 or 11:30 depending on the test. The first day is the longest at 90 minutes. It will be mornings and not afternoons.

PBIS Store

Items needed:

- Bulk items – ex. Oriental Trading
- Playdoh
- Party favors
- Food items

Mrs. Clark explained that students get rewards for following SOAR expectations. They can get money from custodians, teachers, media specialists, etc. They are going to set up things from playdoh to food items and reward them. This will tell them that we support them. It is a great opportunity and the kids are excited. Mrs. Aldridge explained that this brings math into it as well. Mrs. Clark said economics, and supply and demand lessons as well. Mrs. Baggett said it is good to use dollars because they always see credit cards at stores.

Mrs. Hodges said she has been shopping and looking for donations. She is looking for items kids would be excited about spending money on. Incentives for good behavior in between grand celebrations every 9 weeks. Students can save dollars to spend on big ticket items or spend them. She wants some big ticket items on display to encourage the students. Students can earn Hawk Dollars throughout the building. Classroom teachers give them out as students earn them. This helps curtail behavior and keep everybody on task. She just made a big order. It took about \$1,000 to start and get the year up and running. Then it should be around \$600 per month. Some of the types of things can be bracelet sets, water guns, planes with projectiles, scooters, board games, bikes. She had a neighbor in the past who built bikes each year for Walmart, and Walmart would donate bikes. Anything you know that your kids like, the students would like as well. Chips, rice crispy treats, gold fish, party favors, slinkies are some other ideas. We don't want something that will tear up quick because that would discourage them. Baby Dolls, Dollar Tree items, Amazon, Butterfly kits (in spring), microphones that echo, etc. are items that would be good for the store. If anyone has a Frito Lay connection, some of the big bags of chips would be great. Gently used nice bikes if your child is getting a new one.

GADOE: Math Standards / Explanations of Changes and Improvements

Mrs. Sandy Sayer explained where to find the math standards along with the changes and improvements. If you are at the website for the GA Standards, then you go to Math, scroll down to standards explanation and standards improvements. This show what was and the improvements. Look at your child's grade level. This has been really great within the framework to give teachers visual progression. Teachers had the progression before but not visual. Kinder – 12th grade to see how standards tie into each other. This is also good for parents.

These changes are designed to:

- Provide a strong foundation
- Be clear and understandable
- Present a reasonable amount of content in each year

The first 5 key concepts focus on Kinder through 5th. Standards taught below them. NR stands for Numerical Reasoning. Instead of focusing on computation it's all about reasoning learning how to use with real world examples and experiences.

Kindergarten –

- K.NR.1=counting quantities up to 20 and building the concept of cardinality of number
Improvements: using real objects to count quantities. In addition, students will use pennies, nickels and dimes as counters and know their names and value.
- K.NR.2= learning number names and the count sequence to 100
Improvements: a shift to develop students' reasoning and patterns within the count sequence to also count backward from 20
- K.NR.4= focuses on writing, representing, and comparing numbers to 20
Improvements: comparing sets of objects, using words, not symbols, and connecting the numerals to those sets
- K.NR.5= develops the concepts of addition, subtraction, and equality through the process of solving problems
Improvements: emphasis on real-life problems to show the relevance of mathematics
- K.GSR.8= describes how students investigate two- and three-dimensional shapes in the world around them
Improvements: a focus on reasoning about shapes and describing the shapes they see in the world around them

1st Grade

- 1.NR.1 = focuses on reading and writing numerical values to 120, learning the count sequence to 120 and comparing numerical values to 120
Improvements: count forward and backward from any number less than 120 ; reason about the place value structure to make sense of the idea of tens and ones and compare and order whole numbers to 100
- 1.MDR.6 = how students use tools to measure, order, and compare length and time, gain an understanding of U.S. coins, and use the framework for statistical reasoning to ask and answer questions based on data
Improvements: the study of time to include elapsed time to the nearest hour using a number line clock; quarters are also introduced

2nd Grade

- 2.NR.3 = introduces the idea of equal groups as a foundation for developing the concepts of even and odd numbers and multiplication
Improvements: using numerical reasoning to find the solution to multiplication problems through repeated addition when solving real-life problems; students use equal groups to represent and solve multiplication problems up to 5×5

- 2.MDR.6 = problem-solving involving time and money

Improvements: elapsed time to the hour or half hour on the hour or half hour using a number line

- 2.GSR.7 = drawing shapes with specific attributes, identifying shapes that exist in the real world, and partitioning shapes to build a foundational understanding of fractions

Improvements: introduction of the idea of symmetry, as well as reasoning about the fractional parts of partitioned shapes

3rd Grade

- 3.PAR.2 = use of visual models to represent fractions using fraction notation with denominators of 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8

Improvements: focus on reasoning to compare unit fractions, represent fractions (including fractions greater than one in multiple ways), and using numerical reasoning to recognize and generate equivalent fractions. Comparing non-unit fractions has been moved to fourth grade.

4th Grade

- 4.NR.4 = builds upon the foundational understandings of fractions developed in grades one through three

Improvements: learn how to add, subtract, and compare fractions with denominators of 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 100. Multiplying fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by fractions concepts have been moved to fifth grade, standard 5.NR.3.

5th Grade

- 5.NR.3 = focuses on developing part-whole strategies and visual models to solve relevant problems involving fractions

Improvements: introduction to multiplying fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by fractions; multiplying fractions and mixed numbers has been moved to 6th grade

- 5.NR.4= focuses on building a deeper understanding of decimal numbers to the thousandths place, reading, writing, and rounding decimal numbers, and solving relevant problems involving the addition and subtraction of decimal numbers

Improvements: multiplication and division of decimal number concepts has been moved to 6th grade

- 5.GSR.8 = focuses on exploring the properties of polygons and rectangular prisms, classifying polygons based on their properties

Improvements: the removal of classifying polygons in a hierarchy

If you have any questions, then go to your child's grade level in the DOE website and read through the ones related to your child. Look for the progression.

Closing

Dr. Glover thanked Mrs. Sawyer for reviewing the changes in Math. She thanked Mrs. Seamans and Ms. Hodges for helping out while she was on a quick trip. They kept her informed while on the plane, hotel, and with family. Congratulated Mrs. Aiken on her daughter Walker being chosen as the Outstanding Student. Mrs. Franz will be accompanying Walker and Dr. Glover to the Board Meeting in January. December is moving quickly. We have 18 confirmed new Gifted and Talented students in 1st through 5th grade. In January we will be making changes due to class size. Some classes are large at this point. There is no cap on class size right now.

Beginning in January, our Facebook page will have a new feature where parents can highlight teachers. Mrs. Story and Mrs. Jackson are putting this in effect.

MAP assessments started yesterday. We aren't forgetting our goals. We do have things to fix – nothing is perfect. We are not at the bottom, but we are not at the top. Dr. Glover is going to ask to see goals meeting with 3rd grade. GMAS is in March. If we gave the test today how many students would be passing or on the bubble. 3rd and 5th are gate years. How many phone calls have been made to parents regarding students progress? What are we doing? Dr. Glover will call and ask parent, "do you know your child is reading on level __ and the GMAS is level __?" We have to know our students and be proactive, not reactive. All kids should be successful.

Reviewed minutes from 9/12/23. Mrs. Baggett asked about volunteers. We currently have Mr. and Mrs. Winters working with 2 classes on the upper grade hallway. Mrs. Ruth White (a former teacher here at Hilltop) works with reading, phonics, sight words with small groups and some one on one. Mrs. Clark explained that she has the Winters working with math fluency in division and reading in small group. They work with priority students and small groups. She has a basket of assignments and a desk. The students respond positively.

Mrs. Baggett inquired about tutoring. We have tutoring set up on Tuesday and Thursday for some students who needed a little extra. It is from September through March. Reading is on Tuesday and Math is on Thursday.

Mrs. Baggett said that when she attended a field trip she noticed some kids in need and asked if we had a clothing closet or if kids would benefit from one. Mrs. Aldridge explained that we have a clothing closet in case of an accident or if a flip flop breaks. Dr. Glover said we have a lot of nice things in the closet. We provide new socks and underwear as well. Holiday season needs are done through the counselor and social worker as a team Mrs. Moroz is doing a phenomenal job working with kids in need. She also provided for them at Thanksgiving. As employees, when we see things, we also pick up things for kids.

Amber Aldridge made a motion to accept the minutes from last meeting. Mrs. Baggett seconded the Motion.

Dr. Glover thanked everyone for coming. If you need anything let us know.

Mrs. Grieshop made the motion to close the meeting. Mrs. Clark seconded the motion at 8:37 a.m.