



School Council Agenda February 16, 2024

1. Call to Order- Dr. Harrell 7:30 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance- Dr. Harrell
3. Approval of Agenda- Motion offered Mrs. Rooks, 2nd by Heather Topping
4. Recognition of Visitors- Mrs. Ashley Wright and Mrs. Alicia Conner
5. Introduction of members -
 - Nicole Griep - parent rep
 - Shontavia Pitts-Lane- parent rep (Absent)
 - Heather Topping- teacher rep
 - Ykeisha Green - teacher rep
 - VaRee Harrell - principal
 - Robin Rooks-API
 - Allison Bridges- parent/business rep (Absent)
 - Letrina Powell - parent/business rep (Absent)
6. Guest Speakers from MAES
 1. Mrs. Ashely Wright
 - b. Ashley Wright, anchored for life coordinator, gave a presentation on Anchored for life obligations. Mrs. Wright informed the audience that there were two leaders, Dr. Gordon and she, along with 8 student members from 4th grade (2 students) and 5th grade (6 students).
 - c. Mrs. Wright discussed service projects that anchored for life has recently contributed to. One of the service projects included collecting toiletries items from MAES students and donating them to a homeless program.
 - d. Mrs. Wright also discussed and presented pictures of the members of Anchored for life performing positive behavior lessons for students who could not attend PBIS celebration. The lessons included what it takes to be a noble knight.
 - e. Anchored for life meetings are held once every other month. Call meetings can be held quickly when needed upon request.

- f. Anchored for life members provide tours for new students. During the tour, new students are given a welcome kit that includes a backpack, parent book (Spanish and English language), journal, ruler and pencils, folder and crayons. Mrs. Wright informed the audience that during the tours the students can make a connection with the new students by having informal conversations.
- g. Mrs. Wright then proceeded to discuss the different types of kits that anchored for life presents...
 - i. Moving kit- this kit is for students who are moving out of state, mostly includes military students. The kit includes a teddy named "Cuz-he" because he cares. Cuz- he has several patches on his exterior. The students who received these kits are informed to attach a memory to each patch. This kit also includes informational cards that the student can give to their friends to stay in contact. A QR code, guidebook, journal and a coin are also found in this kit.
 - ii. Deployment kit- This kit includes a teddy, hat, goggles, and a scarf, in which students can play dress up with the items. Postcards and a journal are also included in this box. Students can write how they feel throughout the deployment and share it with their parents upon their return.
 - iii. Returning kit- This kit includes the same items as the deployment kit, however, this is for students who have parents returning from a deployment.
 - iv. Divorce kit- This kit is for students whose parents are going through a divorce or recently divorced. This kit is normally presented by Mr. Sebastin and Mrs. Melnick.
 - v. Grief kit- This kit is for students who have lost a loved one such as a parent, grandparent, cat, dog, or someone significant. This kit is normally presented by Mr. Sebastin and Mrs. Melnick.
 - vi. The benefits of Anchored for life are displayed throughout the school. It helps students with communication, responsibility, self-expression, friendship building and confidence.

2. Mrs. Alicia Corner

a. Mrs. Corner sent out an email asking for staff member input on MAPS colors and mascot. She expressed her excitement about the transition and assured the audience it would be great.

7. Report to the Principal- school news- upcoming events

a. Dr. Harrell informed the audience that the MAES and MAPS are still one family and there will be collaboration events held for staff members throughout the upcoming year. Dr. Harrell informed everyone that when everything is finalized, they will send out information through Dojo to parents so that they are informed about MAPS.

b. Upcoming events:

- March 8, 2024-MAES Talent show
- March 22, 2024-Field Day
- April 12, 2024- Spring Fling
- May 1-8, 2024- GMAs testing
- May 14, 2024-5th grade day at Rigby's
 - Teachers on the committee should inform their team so that everyone is aware of the upcoming dates.

c. PTO- Mrs. Dollar is leaving and Dr. Harrell is taking recommendations on replacements. Griepp had questions about the potential replacement having to submit a bio... Dr. Harrell expressed that everyone who is interested should submit a bio, therefore members can know the background of potential replacement.

d. Pitts-Lane and Bridges will roll of the school council because of the served time. Dr. Harrell is taking recommendations for a business owner and a parent to replace them.

e. Graduation ceremonies will be held in the gym at the end of May.

f. Mrs. Griepp questioned teacher appreciation week dates... Dr. Harrell informed her that it would most likely be celebrated the week before testing. Other members agreed and stated it might be uplifting for teachers prior to GMAS testing.

g. Mrs. Topping had questions about scheduling specials. Mrs. Rooks informed her that the schedule will consist of everyone still having 30 minutes of Specials for the entire week of testing. Mrs. Rooks

informed everyone that she is working on finalizing the schedule.

- h. Mrs. Rooks mentioned needing proctors for GMAS testing. The hours will be 8 a.m-11a.m May 1-8, 2024. Proctors must have a background check. She is still taking recommendations. Third- Fifth grade will be testing at the same time across the county. Mrs. Alicia Corner mentioned technology concerns during that time.
- i. Dr. Harrell mentioned to everyone that the allotment for teachers will be put out next week. She will then know if she needs to hire or move someone around.
- j. February 24, 2024 the public job fair will be held.
- k. Dr. Harrell mentioned the success of the Valentine's Dance for 4th and 5th graders. It was evident that the students enjoyed the dance.
- l. Additional comments/concerns

Griepp and Topping brought up dance dismissal issues. All were discussed and solved.

8. Adjournment Motioned- Motion Mrs. Topping 2nd- Mrs. Wright

- a. The meeting ended at 7:52 a.m.
- b. Next meetings: April 26, 2024

Mission Statement: Our mission at Matt Arthur Elementary is to provide a school that works for ALL students: academically, socially and emotionally.

Vision Statement: Our mission at Matt Arthur Elementary is every child, every day, NO exceptions!