

**Shakerag Elementary school**

*Celebrating Learning. Inspiring Leaders.*

**Shakerag Elementary School Governance Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**December 8, 2015**

**Members present**: Michelle Skalka, Lynette Baker, Allison Kerley, Seani Serfontein, Karen James (teleconferenced), Martin Neuhaus, Russell Bean, Laura Benscoter, Brian Olivo, Stephanie Beckles

Guests:

Laurie Chans, AP

Daniel Hodge, ITST

Clifford Jones, Area Superintendent

Kina Champion, Governance & Flexibility Department

Jianzhong Zhang, parent

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 a.m. by Michelle who then moved to approve the minutes from our last meeting (October 13), seconded by Russell and passed unanimously. After a review of the meeting agenda, Russell moved to approve the agenda. Lynette seconded and the agenda was unanimously approved.

Principal’s Update:

* Martin will be moving to a new position as Principal of Barnwell Elementary effective January 4th, 2016
* Martin expressed his gratitude for his time at Shakerag and to the Council, teachers, staff and students for all of their support. He is confident that Shakerag is in good hands and that strategic initiatives will continue to progress.
* A slideshow was presented with respect to GA Milestone test results. Because this is a new assessment tool, comparisons cannot be made between these results and those of the CRCT. Interpretive information and results are being sent home today to Shakerag’s 4th and 5th graders.

The GA Milestone score is one of many data points and criteria with which to measure student achievement.

* Martin will present more information about the Milestone results as well as the new principal search at the Principal’s Coffee on December 14th at 8:00 a.m. in the Media Center.

Personalized Learning Update – Daniel Hodge, ITST

* Personalized learning initiative at Shakerag continues to purposefully move forward with our workshop model that allows technology to enhance – not drive – instruction.
* Action Plan: Identify best practices at Shakerag and implement a plan to share those practices with all teachers through mentoring and modeling.
* Device Rollout: We are expecting 250 Microsoft Surface Tablets after the winter break and are hoping for 50 to arrive prior to the break for staff.
* Transformers will provide professional development to help teachers understand why we are using the technology and how we are using it.

School Performance Discussion: Kina Champion, Governance and Flexibility Department

* This is a bridge year, therefore we will be creating a new Strategic Plan.
* 3 sessions (January – March) with support from the County. There is a 3-Step process that includes a data drive, surveys and focus groups, and root-cause analysis that will allow us to reflect on past progress, identify primary focuses, and form new initiatives.

Seed Fund Update and Vote - Application due December 10

Instructional Technology Coach - Contract

Draft of Seed Fund application was reviewed and discussed. There were several minor changes recommended which were positively received and will be incorporated into the Seed Fund Application.

Seani made a motion to approve the Seed Fund Application. Russell seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

Principal Search Update – Cliff Jones, Area Superintendent

Steps to appoint new principal:

* Survey of parents, community, and staff is an important tool to define the right fit for our new principal.
* Goal is to have at least 100 surveys and it will remain open until Dec. 14 or 15.
* Communication to school community about the survey will be increased by:
  + Translation to Japanese and Korean
  + Links to survey on Shakerag homepage, PTA website, and Facebook page
  + SGC and PTA will collaboratively reach out to the school community expressing the importance of the survey.
* Criteria will then be brought to focus groups (teachers and parents) to further prioritize characteristics deemed important for role of principal at Shakerag.
* Interview of candidates that possess leadership traits identified by survey and focus groups.
* Mr. Jones will make recommendation to Superintendent.
* Candidate will interview with Superintendent who will then make recommendation to the Board.
* We will have a substitute principal until selection process is complete.

Housekeeping

* Next meeting January 12, 2016
* Laura Benscoter moved to adjourn. Lynette seconded and motion passed unanimously.

**Martin Neuhaus, Principal Laurie Chans, Assistant Principal**

**10885 Rogers Circle, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097**

[www.shakeragelementary.com](http://www.shakeragelementary.com)