

Osceola Middle School Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

January 16, 2020

In attendance for the SAC Committee were regular members: Mr. Downing (Principal); Amy Ross (teacher); Michele Clanton (parent/SAC Chair); Michelle Cohen (parent); Jennifer Cottage (teacher); Paul Varillas (parent). The meeting was presided by Mrs. Clanton, beginning at 5:32 PM.

In old business, Mr. Downing reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting, which was held on October 24, 2019. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Amy Ross and seconded by Michelle Cohen. Motion carried.

In new business, Mr. Downing updated the SAC on a request brought forward at the last meeting by Mrs. Stripling...

SAC Request for \$400 was entered by Shannon Stripling for a universal translator. She has a non-English-speaking student with whom she cannot communicate. She had researched and found a start-up in France that would translate her voice on a mobile mic to ear buds for the student to hear in his native tongue. There was a motion to approve (Clanton) and seconded (Ross). The discussion centered on how we as a committee will know/compare that this will be the best device as there are similar products coming on the market. A revised motion to review products/share/conduct business over email and to collect a consensus was entered (Cohen) and seconded (Ross). Motion passed.

An email on November 1, 2019 from Jennifer Cottage to the SAC Committee with an analysis of 4 different universal translators was offered to the committee. There were several correspondences via email and a consensus of regular members voted to approve by November 9, 2019. Copies are available of the emails in the SAC Secretary's Notebook (located in the Principal's Office at OMS).

Due to the delay between SAC Approval and having to add the seller as a vendor, Mrs. Stripling opted to purchase the translation device out of her own money. A recommendation to reimburse Mrs. Stripling was made by Mrs. Cottage and seconded (Ross). Mr. Downing commented that he was unsure how payments to individuals from SAC funds worked, but that he would follow-up accordingly and update the group at the next meeting.

Mr. Downing brought a request for six staff to be able to attend the Model Schools Conference in Orlando, Florida in June 2020. This national conference moves from city to city and will be in Florida this year. By sending a team of six members of the OMS Leadership Team, it is hoped this can spark ideas and innovations that will continue OMS on a positive trajectory for years to come. Mr. Downing requested the use of \$2,500 to cover conference fees and room reservations, and planned to utilize Title 1 Funds to cover the balance of the expense (approximately \$5,000 total). There was a motion to accept (Ross) and seconded (Varillas). Motion was unanimous.

A future meeting was set for April 16, 2020 at 5:30 PM in the Osceola Middle School Conference Room C.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Downing and seconded (Ross). The motion was passed by a unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 PM.

Meeting notes submitted for approval to the membership by Sean Downing, Osceola Middle School Principal. If clarification, revision, or embellishment is needed, please reply to Mr. Downing via district email.

Thank you to all who were in attendance!