

**GAMBLE ROGERS MIDDLE SCHOOL
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2024**

WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

SAC Chair Jaci Racano called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. The minutes of the December 14, 2023, meeting were distributed and read. Kim McManus moved to accept the minutes as written. Linda Villadóniga seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY OUTREAD: LOCAL HISTORY NIGHT

Ms. Julie Penn reported that the Local History Night is a joint effort between several local organizations. It will be held on Monday, February 5, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. in the GRMS Gym. There will be a Pirate-themed Escape Room, Scavenger Hunt, and other activities. Among the “exhibitors” present will be The St. Augustine Historical Society, Flagler College, the Southeast Branch of the St. Johns County Library, the Colonial Quarter, the Lincolnville Association, University of Florida, the Castillo de San Marcos, The Pirate Museum, Ft. Mosé, the Fountain of Youth, Hasting Main Street, and the Spanish Military Hospital. There will be food from A Frame Datil Sauce, the Concho House, and Pizza. The schools in our feeder pattern have been invited. District personnel have also been invited. The event is open to the public as well.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT

Mrs. Dufrain, chair of the ESE Dept., spoke about the Access Program at GRMS. There are 30 students enrolled. It is the largest Access Program in the County. The program provides opportunities for students in the inclusion program. There is a full kitchen which houses the Barkery, the Dog Biscuit Business.

The program has a kindness cart which takes orders from the staff (menu includes an assortment of drinks, chips, granola, homemade treats). There is a Best Buddies Club at GRMS. This club promotes activities between the gen ed students and the Access Program students. It has grown exponentially since its inception. There will be a “Prom night” on March 8, 2024. Volunteers will help with hair and make-up for the girls. It will be held at the Tringali Barn.

Best Buddies, along with SRO Fuentes and Ms. Dufrain, is heading up a service project to collect Teddy Bears which in turn will be donated to local law enforcement, fire departments, paramedics, etc. to give to children when these are in a dangerous situation.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Mr. Wilson reported that there are funds still available in the SAC budget. There are Professional Development Opportunities provided by the County Office every 4th Wednesday of the month.

On January 5, 2024, an in-school PD was held in which GRMS staff shared ideas within their grade levels or subject areas. Teachers will be able to go to another teacher’s class to “learn” from another teacher. Among the activities shared during the PD were Remediation Stations (meeting the needs of all students), Tricks to make Science and Reading more impactful, and Chunking and Checking to help students focus better and then check for comprehension.

Mr. Wilson also reported that planning for the 2024-2025 SY has begun.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Knox, of the Science Department, is the point of contact for the Science Adoption Committee. She asked for a member of SAC to volunteer to be part of the adoption committee. Linda Villadóniga volunteered.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Jaci Racano asked for a motion to adjourn, Kim McManus moved to adjourn the meeting. Linda Villadóniga seconded the motion. All present were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

The next GRMS SAC meeting will be held on February 15, 2024, at 3 p.m. in the Media Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Villadóniga, Secretary