



Victory Advisory Council

Participants

- Chad Wray (Principal)
- Pat Koscinski (Assistant Principal)
- Cecilia Kuglistsh (School Parent Liaison)
- Calla Correa-Brady (VAC Chair, VES Rep for SACI & parent of KG and 2nd grade students)
- Jessica Cypher (4th Grade teacher)
- Danielle Bencivenga (PTO President & parent of 3rd grade student)
- Erin Biswas (PTO At large member & parent of 2nd grade student)
- Molly Rickard (Parent of 1st and 5th grade students – recognized for being established member of the VAC)
- Nchang Azefor (Parent of a 4th grade student)

Mr. Wray reviewed:

- Rubric for a High Functioning VAC
- Victory ES is in compliance with the rubric this year.
- The rating last week was 15. However, over time the number is expected to rise.
- Continuous Improvement Plan
- Recommended topics for VAC moving forward

Mr. Wray reviewed components of the budget that is provided in July and the class sizes created based on the projected #'s. The # of students on September 30 is the amount the school may receive for the remainder of the year. In October a reconciliation report is provided that will provide a new amount for the year. He talked to the maximum # such as 4th grade this year which is 27/28 students in the class. When a class has 25 students that constitutes the funds for 1 teacher.

Mrs. Richard asked about the size of a cohort that has moved up from last year. Mr. Wray talked about the cohort that was relatively small. 3rd and 4th grade have the largest class sizes this year. K is average size. The 1st grades are large as well. The way students are grouped are impacted by the size of the classes.

Mrs. Correa-Brady shared information about the Superintendents Advisory Council. She explained that the meeting started with talking about the High Functioning Council and the training of reps on what High Functioning Council looks like.

- Rotates around families
- Communication between staff and community

She talked about the differences between the high school level vs. the elementary.

She explained that each school looks different, however the goal is to have all schools have similarities and experiences.

The equity of the school at Victory ES was low. She would like to talk about the concerns that were discussed at the SACI.

She would like to ensure that all the stakeholders' voices are heard.

SACI reps are to be a relay and keep things neutral. The reps are part of change in the county through the SACI.

She feels as though she has a better grasp of what an advisory council should look like after attending SACI. She would like to find a way to reach all communities in Victory ES.

She thinks all parents want to be involved with their students and would like to work collaboratively to build that concept.

Mr. Wray shared that it is nice to hear the perspective of other schools. He shared that parents are not always aware of how to get involved. He talked about autonomy and how to get involved. At elementary school we are always concerned about the budget. Once the final numbers come in it is a relief to see how much money is left to be used for other goals that the school might have.

It is nice to have a rep from Victory on SACI to share the expectations.

There was an emphasis on PWCS' Strategic Plan and the Continuous Improvement Plan at the SACI.

Mr. Wray talked about "socializing" parents, staff, community. The goal is to find a way to do that in a balanced way. The Continuous Improvement Plan is a detailed plan. The county looked at ways to socialize the plan. There are many opportunities to socialize the plan, the Advisory Council being one avenue.

Mr. Wray talked about the School Counselor Advisory Council. One way the goals have been met is to have the school counselors as part of the advisory council agenda. They will be added to the VAC agenda to meet the requirement.

Mr. Wray talked about safety drills. Specifically, he talked about the bus evacuation drill that was conducted today, 10/15/24. He shared that it was a success. Victory has had challenges in the past with transportation. However, this year it has been a great experience. Our latest bus is arriving at 4:05. He talked about the bus driver shortage and the impact it has on the start and end of the school day.

The earthquake drill was discussed, and the procedure used for the drill which will be conducted this week. October Fire drill is coming up this week as well.

Mr. Wray referred to the Math standards that have changed this year. The changes can be seen on the VDOE web site. The Math portion of the Continuous Improvement Plan will be shared at the staff meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2024. The literacy and math curriculum completely changed this year. It has been stressful and there is a lot of new work for the staff.

The parent handbook that was created. The plan was to publish in August but with all the changes it came out later. The format of the Advisory Council is an opportunity for parents to share their thoughts about the handbook.

Mrs. Bencivenga – Shared information about the Westie Waggle and how to best support on Oct 31. She explained that it is a way to celebrate students even though it is a fundraiser. The students will walk around the bus loop in the back. This year the students can wear a book character outfit or costume. They make banners that students run through. There will be a DJ.

Mrs. Corea-Brady and Mrs. Biswas are trying to create an archway that the students can run through. The fun and joy the students get from the Westie Waggle is well worth it.

October is the month of anti-bullying month. Mrs. Kiser or Mrs. Jednat are the points of contact to find out more information.

October 16th is wear Orange Day to show unity.

Mr. Wray talked about incentivizing attendance:

Ms. Jednat, school counselor is working on "Westie of the month"

Mr. Wray expressed that the SACI report was spot on and nice to hear that the message is consistent with that of Victory ES. He will continue to reach out to Mrs. Correa-Brady to get her input and perspective.

The Next VAC meeting is Nov 19th
Meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm