



Victory Advisory Council

Participants

- Chad Wray (Principal)
- Cecilia Kuglistsh (School Parent Liaison)
- Calla Correa Brady (VAC Chair, SACI Representative, and parent of KG and 2nd Grade students)
- Jessica Kiser (School Counselor)
- Mrs. Shipp (1st Grade Teacher)
- Molly Rickard (Parent of 1st and 5th grade students)
- Danielle Bencivenga – (Parent of a 3rd grade student and PTO President)
- Erin Biswas (Parent of a 2nd grade student and PTO Member at Large)
- Nitsuh Tedla (Parent of PreK student)

Mr. Wray reviewed-

Special Recognition:

- Mr. Wray acknowledged Mr. Lash and the students who participated in the Victory Voices concert.
- Recognition was also given to the VES Robotics Team. Thank you, Mrs. Moller and Mrs. Song, for representing our school this past weekend.
- Appreciation was extended to the VES PTO for the successful Westie Waggle Fundraising event.
- PTO Fall Clubs concluded positively, taking advantage of the new bell schedule, which now allows for morning fall clubs.

Continuous Improvement Plan:

- Schools are required to have an advisory council as part of the continuous improvement plan.
- There is a rubric for a high-functioning VAC (Victory Advisory Council), which guides our discussions.
- Today's Agenda: Discussion of the budget, which is necessary for us to receive full points according to the rubric.

Calla Correa-Brady VAC Chair Report of the SACI meeting:

- The change from PALLS to VALLS Assessments was discussed.
- Positive data was shared about PWCS assessments overall.
- There was a discussion about the county receiving numerous reports of racial comments and the importance of having a positive community role within the school to combat racism.

- Mr. Wray expressed that our school already has a role in place to address these issues through our SEL (Social Emotional Learning) coaches.
- Mrs. Kiser, school counselor, and Mrs. McQuillan, 5th grade teacher, are the SEL coaches at VES. Here are the minutes of the meeting based on your notes:
- Chronic Absenteeism: The issue of chronic absenteeism in the county was brought up.
- Superintendent's Visit: It was announced that the superintendent will join January's meeting.
- School's Report Card: The School's Report Card is available on the PWCS website for everyone to view.
https://www.pwcs.edu/departments/accountability/data/school_data_profiles/dashboard
- Virginia School Quality Profiles: It was noted that the School Quality Index data shown is usually a year old. <https://schoolquality.virginia.gov/schools/victory-elementary-2#fndtn-desktopTabs-accountability>

Commitment #1 Learning and Achievement for all-

Mr. Wray informed the committee that TNTP (The New Teacher Project), a consulting firm hired by PWCS, will be visiting our school. TNTP representatives will use a "walk-through tool" to gather data and evaluate our professional development needs. They are scheduled to visit this Friday to focus on our Language Arts and Math goals.

Commitment #2 Positive Climate and Culture-

- **Nominations** for Teacher of the Year and Support Staff will soon be sent to parents and guardians.
- **Chronic absenteeism** tends to be higher during November and December. Students are absent for various reasons, including numerous days off, which disrupts their routine, and a significant increase in illnesses. We have observed a rise in diagnoses of pneumonia and walking pneumonia. Chronic absenteeism is defined as a student being absent for 10% of the school year. At the beginning of the school year, it is easier to reach this 10% threshold due to the lower number of total attendance days. By the end of the year, a student who misses 18 days will have reached the 10% mark.
- **2A2 letters** have been distributed. These letters are sent after five days of absences, whether excused or unexcused.
- **Code of Behavior:** Discussed the importance of not "roasting" as it can lead to arguments and bullying. Parents should discuss this with their children.
- **Title VI reports/complaints** are non-sex-based and are filed due to derogatory comments against a person, community, race, etc. Examples heard at school include terms like "retarded," "monkey," and "black monkey." These reports are sent to the DEIC (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Compliance Department), which reviews them to determine whether the complaint requires further investigation by the department or if it is a school matter. Mr. Wray emphasized that derogatory comments will not be tolerated and will result in consequences.
- **School Safety:** A traumatic event recently occurred in Maryland where a 4th-grade student hung a 2nd-grade student on a jacket hook behind a bathroom door. Mr. Wilis was commended for promptly contacting his supervisor and checking our bathrooms for similar hooks the morning after the news broke.

- **Budget:** At the beginning of November, we received our reconciled budget. Funding is based on the number of students enrolled by September 30. We lost some funding due to not implementing the planned special education (SPED) program, but this was offset by the reimbursement of the salary for the teacher who was to run the program. This year, 2nd grade has very small classes, which is ideal as they require the most support in literacy.