

Gainesville High School PAC Meeting

February 3, 2025

Community Time:

SACI Update: Mrs. Kinsel

- There was no meeting due to the snow.

Principal's Time:

1. Good News:

- a. Winter Sports update- All teams are gearing up for postseason tournaments. Boys' basketball is battling for the second seed in the district. Girls' basketball is currently in second place. The gymnastics team finished second in the Cedar Run District Championship. First time in school history that the team has qualified for the regional tournament. Track, Wrestling, and Swim & Dive are in Districts and Regionals this week District. Advanced Placement Honor Roll
- b. PTSO After Grad – volunteers needed.
 - i. Ms. McDonald shared that first annual after grad occurred last year. There is food and prizes for the students. This is May 29th, it will occur between 9 pm and 1 am. Looking for help for set-up, coordinating vendors, raffle prizes.
 - ii. Last year, over 100 students who showed up. Very positive event after graduation.
 - iii. PTO page there is a section for the seniors
 - iv. May 17th – 2nd annual 5k. Can use extra help for the 5k.

2. Current Events

- a. Schools have been sensitive spaces in the past, with new guidance students are concerned about changes. Today, there was “life without immigrants' day” where students did not go to school. Students are protected under FERPA if we are visited by law enforcement or immigration services. We have protocol and legal guidance that we need to follow in these cases.
- b. Funding, federal sources that impact public education – Perkins grant in CTE that cover equipment in career and technical education, including classes such as construction technology and engineering classes. Title I funding, IDEA funding, EL funding. Funding for this year is secure for this year, in PWCS about 5% is federally funded. If funding streams change, we will get more guidance.

3. Follow up from Last PAC: Athletic Uniforms

- a. Last time shared that we have begun to go through uniform rotations. Teams will receive new uniforms, try to get on a 4 year rotation for new uniforms. Some uniforms have damage, wear and tear, mostly in good shape. Trying to get ahead on the new rotation, not sure what we are doing with the old uniforms. Have considered donating uniforms.

4. CIP Update

- a. Middle of the Year CIP meeting is in March, we will look at data and share with supervisors in March.
- b. Chronic absenteeism was looking good, but have had a few days that have impacted, Friday 2-hour delay return from break. Chronic absenteeism is missing 10% of school year and fluctuates every 10 days.
- c. Question: letter regarding attendance: Chronic absenteeism does not account for excused vs unexcused absences; days cumulate to students' absentee rate. Letters come from an outside company that sends automatic letters. Sometimes we have the ability to suppress letters, but don't always have the context.
- d. Question: Cases where need letter, and cases where you don't need letter. Today 399 students are chronically absent, there is an elaborate process for when students miss school (3,5,7,10 days of school). When a student gets to the point of having more than 10 absences that are unexcused, they run the risk of becoming court involved. There are situations students whose parents have excused 15+ absences. Different for every child.

- e. Question: does every school send out the same letter? When did chronic absenteeism become a big thing?
Yes all schools send the same letter, chronic absenteeism became a focus after the pandemic.
5. Senior Graduation Status
 - a. Ties into our CIP efforts, just went through cycle of SOL and CTE testing. For students who had not passed a test last year. First focus in on senior class, then look at juniors.
 - b. Over 40% students passed in the December testing window.
 - c. All students have passed CPR certification.
 - d. 16 seniors still need an SOL for verified credit
 - e. 22 students who needed to pass EPF – all currently in the class.
 - f. Will meet with counselors, APs, director of counseling to drill down for each student in their supervision to ensure there is a plan.
 - g. Tracking to be 98% graduation rate this year.
 - h. Students that graduate in the summer are still on track, historically 5-10 students.
 6. Budget Status for Fiscal Year 25
 - a. Current balance – \$927,000 in Flex side of the budget. \$100,000 for gov school, some is for grant for marching band trailer, CTE equipment, work vehicle for athletic trainer. Used to pay subs, coaching supplements, paper products. This time last year we had \$630,000. The cost of subs has gone up, and we have had more staff needing long-term sub coverage. In March we will go over needs assessment.
 - b. Reconciliation process and spending priorities
 7. Fiscal Year 26 Status - Budget Planning for 25-26 SY
 - a. Positions to hire - waiting to see what we have. We don't anticipate adding any new positions. Only position that has been added is custodial staff member, gives us the correct ratio in terms of custodial staff. We are funded per pupil for custodian, it does not account for square footage.
 - b. Wednesday 2/5/25 is where 25-26 budget will be presented.
 - c. Collective bargaining agreement, pay raise agreement. Presentation around the capital improvement plan, and talking about the 14th high school.
 - d. Question: do we have enrollment projections? We have a meeting to look at various data points for projections for next year. Enrollment has plateaued. Looking at students looking to transfer out vs transfer in. Plan to be around 625-640 per class.
 8. Course Selections for 25-26 SY
 - a. Started last week in January with rising 10th graders
 - i. Teachers have made course recommendations, want students and families to be informed consumers.
 - ii. Trying to open doors for students.
 - iii. Counselors are meeting with students individually, important work, where students have conversations about their high school coursework and post-secondary education.
 9. Update Capital Improvement Plan Considerations at GHS (Cameras, Gym Floor, Bells, University Blvd.)
 - a. Despite being new school there are needs. Camera system is outdated, and there is low functionality. In line to get vercota cameras in the next 6-10 months as a significant upgrade. Bell system is older than the one at Patriot, some money set aside for our new bell system. New bell system is around \$80,000.
 - b. The gym floor is peeling, there are soft spots. Hopefully new installation of the basketball court floor.
 - c. University blvd project, lifetime fitness has been released from their bond for Wentworth. No updates on this.

Next Meeting Dates:

- Next meeting changed to March 10th to invite Ms. Treddinick

- May 5, 2025, at 6:30 P.M

Community Time

- Thank you for keeping informed on schedule for return with the winter weather and sending emails to students and families.
- Question: how often should teachers be updating gradebooks? The expectation is weekly. There shouldn't be any surprises.
- Question: dropping off your kid, now that students have to use the stadium parking lot, seen parents make poor choices. Good point, have 450 parking spaces in student lot, have sold 13 more. Had not considered the way you have to walk to get back into the building.
- Comment: it shouldn't impact because by the time spaces have run out there shouldn't be too much traffic.
- Beech: will walk down there and talk to security staff to look at it.
- Question: no school zone lights, speeding on university dr. Someone needs to own the road prior to adding signs.