

## Mill Creek Elementary SAC Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2014

**In Attendance:** Gina Cirillo, Amanda Riedl, Tracy Peska, Synethia Brown, Kristin Orr, Joe Purvis, Jo Saldana, Shannon Millican, Richard Booth, Avita Beatty, Sharon Clark, Loreal Greathouse, excused, Tina Larson, Nerissa Hartford, Scott Mitchell, Ruben Velazquez, visitor, Donna Frank, visitor

**Absent:** Carolyn Ramsay, Sam Gardner, unexcused; Tina Larson excused; Rhonda Hammell, excused; Donna Locke, unexcused.

The meeting opened at 4:05 p.m. and the members were asked to review and approve the minutes from the January meeting. Millican made a motion to approve them and Purvis seconded.

The Treasurer's report will be sent out with the minutes and will be given at the next meeting due to Hammell being sick.

Donna Frank, St Johns County School District's Elementary Math Program Specialist, explained the changes in math curriculum with the adoption of the new Common Core standards. She stressed that watching our children learn math and having them explain their understanding on how they formulated their answer, helps teachers better understand what they are teaching. Common Core helps the students understand how numbers work and why. Although this is much different than how we were taught, students are developing a better understanding of base ten, key vocabulary and are able to explain their reasoning using the eight standards of math practice. Students are expected to use their problem solving tools to help them clarify, model and reason math problems. Teachers are not spoon feeding the children the answers on "how" to correctly do the problem but rather, students are coming up with their own solutions with teacher guidance. She then shared a video from The Teaching Channel.org to demonstrate the common core math learning shifts.

A new Fund's Request Form was created and members were asked to look it over. It was suggested that a table be placed on the back to better organize information. Also, it was clarified that the turnaround time for a funds request form from staff is one week before the request is sent out.

Millican was asked to report on the District SAC meeting that she attended. She shared that now that the EOCs have been mandated by the state, the district has not been given funds to create the tests. The next Community Empowerment Series one day workshop, sponsored by the Dance Company, will be held on March 29 at St Augustine High and is geared for 5<sup>th</sup> graders and older. The District budget reported that the FTE money amount is less per student than what they had figured 10 years ago. The three percent increase to the district is being absorbed by digital learning costs. Sixty percent of transportation costs are funded by the state. The two new schools opening will create about 200 new district jobs. St John's county is number one in the state for utility cost savings.

Mrs. Riedl reported that the fourth grade students took FCAT Writes today. Students believed that they did great and were extremely excited. She reminded members about the Evening with the Stars on April 4<sup>th</sup>, and parents should be looking for the flyer. Mustang Gallop is March 7<sup>th</sup> and is a major fundraiser for the school.

We are in need of a new parent member.

Our next meeting will be held March 25, 2014 from 4-5 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.