

## **Marshall Advisory Council**

Monday March 3, 2025

- Meeting started at 4:17pm
- Went around the room and zoom and completed introductions.
- SACI Update
  - Meeting was February 13th, 2025. Discussed the February and January agenda. There was interest among the parents for more involvement. Ways to become more involved include: SACI bylaws committee, annual report writing team. At the division level parents can volunteer to be a part of the instructional materials review committee.
  - The strategic plan for the division will be looked at and planned for the next four years. There will be a need for more members for that as well (more parental involvement area).
  - Reviewed the MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support). New program since 2022. This is a student support team with a goal of early intervention, recognizing kids who need help and support sooner.
  - The new Hazel Telehealth/therapy support. Parents can sign kids up via Parentvue. Parents need to be present for therapy sessions. Sessions available 7am-7pm daily. This is a great way to get mental health support for kids immediately, especially when it can take months to get into a local provider. There is no charge to parents for this service.
  - HR presented information about retention of faculty and staff. Discussed changes to income for new staff and existing staff in the coming years. Discussed education partnerships to help get folks education/certification in teaching. Divisions slogan “you belong here”.
  - The Family Engagement and Parent liaison program. All schools have a parent liaison. Their role was discussed. The family engagement program was discussed and all the programs available for families to be able to attend virtually and/or watch on demand after.
- Marshall ES Counselors Presentations

- Mrs. Knight and Ms. Jardin are the counselors at Marshall ES
  - Mrs. Knight is new to Marshall ES. She works with G1, G3 and G5.
  - Ms. Jardin is new to Marshall ES. She works with K, G2 and G4.
- They discussed the PWCS playbook/guideline that outlines what they are required to teach each month. They have several program goals:
  - Academic development is one of the main goals. Help with study habits, organization skills, positive attitudes towards learning, work on testing skills and reducing testing anxiety, time management, listening focus skills and goal setting.
  - Social emotional development . Areas of focus include: coping skills, feelings and emotions, friendship and conflict resolution, decision making, identity and diversity. Educate now how to use restorative practices to help fix problems.
  - Positive school climate. Areas of focus include: promoting a safe inclusive supportive school, the student council runs the no place for hate program, the giving tree, SOAR/positive behavior, and month of the military child. Talk with student daily on how their actions affect the school climate.
  - Personal well being/safety. Required lessons include substance abuse, body safety, and safe at home safe alone.
  - Career development. This varies by grade level. The State of Virginia has the Virginia Wizard specifically for G2-5. Career days and college readiness lessons included. Mandated education by the state. This app can be accessed from home.
- Please feel free to contact the counselors directly and or via your students teacher.
- Questions: It was mentioned that some information is not allowed to be shared with parents. PWCS regulates some lessons. There was NOT a clear explanation as to why. Dr. Klimaitis and the counselors will get clarification on this.
- Question: why do the counselors work with different grade levels and do they stay with those students or new counselor per year? The response was that is how it's been structured in previous years. They have a lot of overlap with sharing lessons and an office space and covering one another. The division of the grade levels

has more to do with how lessons are taught than support of all the students.

- Mrs. Miller Marshall ES Reading specialist presented on VALLS
  - This is the State of VA literacy screener for K-3
  - There was improvement in the risk category from fall to mid year with kindergarten.
  - 1st grade. The high risk grew from start of year to mid year but low and moderate improved. There have been new students to 1st grade which also factors in to the percentage change.
  - 2nd grade improved from fall to midyear.
  - 3rd grade the mid year numbers show a change secondary to not all kids being tested midyear (only tested high risk kids identified in the fall).
- Dr. Klimaitis report
  - She presented information on how the school is supporting a new faculty member in the 3rd grade. There has been some challenges with substitutes and lack of consistent faculty with one classroom. She discussed how the other 3rd grade staff are helping with curriculum planning. There are tutors who come into the room and help provide support daily. The reading specialist is providing support and mentorship. Mrs. Dugan is helping to upload grades into Parentvue and providing math support.
  - There was a discussion about when the parents of the students in Mrs. Nawaz class will be able to meet her? The school leadership is working on that currently and will have a date ASAP.
  - There was discussion about the kids missing key learning material, specifically fractions and several students failing a test on that topic. The school leadership did compare this classroom to their peers in all areas. The only area they are not at the same level is fractions and they will be addressing that. They will re-accomplish that missed material and retest all students. If any assignments were missed during the transition students will not be penalized and/or receive a zero grade for that.
  - Similar questions came up about 5th grade, another classroom without a permanent faculty position. There is another teacher joining next week.

- Some general concerns brought up in the meeting around the math test provided by PWCS. They are approx. six questions. If a student misses one or even two it can affect their grade dramatically. Parents concerned about why such a small test? Dr. K mentioned that its more of a unit quiz, than a whole chapter all encompassing exam, meant to test one specific topic. Though the faculty agree the small quiz can affect grades with a small error. Will bring up at SACI
- Meeting ended at 5:25pm