

**SARASOTA ACADEMY OF THE ARTS
MINUTES OF THE January 21, 2015
STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) MEETING**

Location:

Sarasota Academy of the Arts
4466 Fruitville Road
Sarasota, FL 34232

Council Members Present in Person:

Cecilia Blankenship, School Principal
Kathy Bechtel, School Staff Member
Jeffrey Kolowith, School Staff Member
Sabrina Lugo, SAC Secretary and Parent
Leyanit Barron-Moreno, Parent
Sally Malatesta, Community Member
Mike Henry, Parent
Kyle Turoff, Parent

Council Members Absent:

Grace Washburn, Student Council President
Joseph Solano, School Board Member and Parent

Guests Present:

None

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m.

REPORTS:

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the December 3rd meeting were distributed and reviewed by all. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the December 3rd meeting. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

Cecilia brought up "After Hours Tutoring" to the governing board. It is fine to have the tutoring but she will need to find someone to teach.

Students are using SuccessMaker now – we had training on it.

Kindergarten, First and Third grades are using RazKids for reading. Ms. Bryan is using RazKids, SuccessMaker in the computer lab and teaching typing, as well. RazKids will prepare the K, 1 and 3 students for IReady, a new Assessment Test. Sarasota County made a 5 year commitment for online assessment of IReady. SAA won't purchase it this year, it is used to measure growth.

FSA is for 3rd grade and up. Parents need to encourage their kids to practice FSA online at home.

Leyanit asked about practice tests. Cecilia said we have a practice test scheduled.

Jeffrey started a new program in K-3 grades charting attendance and tardiness. If the students attend and arrive on time 16 days per month, those students are rewarded with an Ice Cream Party. Jeffrey noticed some of his kids are arriving on time now.

Kyle asked if everyone knows that the school serves breakfast. Maybe some kids are late because of the morning rush to get ready and eat breakfast before school. Cecilia will make note to spread the word, but part of the problem is that breakfast closes at 8:00 a.m. but sometimes the bus(es) don't arrive until 8:00 a.m. and they have to offer breakfast to the students on the buses.

The Ice Cream Social for middle school students has changed. It is computed differently in that the kids who have showed improvement are also rewarded with the ice cream social. Cecilia reported that there is a definite relationship between attendance, Honor Roll and improvement and performance in the arts.

New Business:

Cecilia asked Mike what the school can do about getting kids to Mote for fieldtrips. Mike said there might be some programs but as for the aquarium, the cost is \$15 or \$16.00. Mike said he'll talk to someone about the Sarasota Bay Explorer boat that leaves from Mote. Jeffrey mentioned using that as a "reward" fieldtrip.

Sally said Ringling offers visit for very little cost.

6th and 7th grades are going to Kennedy Space Center. 5th grade is going to Busch Gardens Zoo School. Kindergarten and 1st grades will go to Legoland. 2nd grade will go to Tampa Aquarium/Children's Museum and 3rd grade to Lowry Park Zoo. Those fieldtrips are all in May.

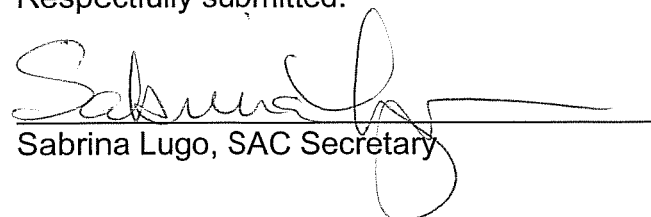
Kyle mentioned selling snacks as fieldtrip fundraisers.

Literacy Night is January 29th.

The next SAC meeting is February 11, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Sabrina Lugo, SAC Secretary

Date: 2/10/15