

**MID-CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 23, 2017**

The Mid-Carolina High School Improvement Council met at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 23, with the following members present: Melissa Doolittle, Deena Connelly, Monica Cromer, Neda Epps, Danny Gilliam, Sissy Delesandro, Kristi Scott, Jessica Felker, Robert Dennis, and Ray Cooper. The following items were distributed: an agenda, minutes from the September 2017 meeting, District EOCEP Data, The ACT School Scores by Grade Level, ACT WorkKeys Test School Scores, and MCHS SIC Meeting PowerPoint.

Welcome – Mr. Cooper welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking time out of their schedules to be a part of our committee for the betterment of the school.

Items of business:

- September 2017 Minutes – Sissy Delesandro read the minutes from our September 2017 meeting. Minutes were approved with one minor change, April 2016 changed to April 2017.
- MCHS Data Share Out/School Improvement Plan
 - SIC Meeting Objectives
 - Begin review of SIC and other school data such as survey results, test scores, and demographic information.
 - Begin ongoing monitoring of school’s progress toward achieving goals in the plan.
 - Student Achievement
 - Teacher/Leadership Quality
 - School Climate
 - SIC – Preparing and Monitoring the School Improvement Plan (Strategic Plan) – This is an ongoing live document that SIC will focus on during our next few meetings. We will first review a lot of data and then the process will begin with us breaking into groups to discuss the data and improve the Plan.
 - State law requires that every public school in SC prepare a five-year School Improvement Plan. SIC’s are required to assist in the preparation and monitoring of this Plan.
 - Describes the school’s needs
 - Sets goals for improvement
 - Performance Goals are goals that the school expects to achieve at the end of the five year.
 - Must have at least one Performance Goal in the following areas:
 - Student Achievement
 - Teacher/Leadership Quality
 - School Climate
 - Identifies strategies that will be used to reach the Plans goals
 - Teacher Quality
 - This is an area of concern. We are in the worst teacher shortage that the state has seen.
 - Data from the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement (CERRA)

	Teachers Did Not Return	# of Graduates Completing a SC Teacher Ed Program	
14-15	4,108	13-14 2,219	-1,889
15-16	4,074	14-15 1,954	-2,120
16-17	4,842	15-16 1,898	-2,944
 - Teacher retention is a major challenge that we are facing. We currently do not have enough teachers out there to choose from. We need to find ways to grow and retain our teachers. They like to be supported and work in a positive uplifting atmosphere/climate. We also have to keep in mind that teachers are not always replaceable especially in critical needs areas.

- Student Achievement
 - EOCEP (ELA, ALG I, BIO, US History)
 - 20% of Final Grade
 - Required for graduation
 - Cannot compare to 2016-2017 data due to test and grade scale changes
 - **Performance Goal:** The percentage of students who earn a 60 or higher on all EOC tests administered in the high school during the school year will increase from 64% in 2012 to 77% in 2018. We did not meet this goal for 2017 but we did show progress.
 - Algebra I - **Performance Goal:** The percentage of students who earn a 60 or higher on the Algebra I EOC assessment will increase from 84.6% in 2012 to 92% in 2018.
 - Honors students that test at Mid-Carolina Middle are not included in our totals.
 - We tested 15 self-contained students last year.
 - English I - **Performance Goal:** The percentage of students who earn a 60 or higher on the English I EOC assessment will increase from 51.5% in 2012 to 80% in 2018.
 - Action plans are being implemented.
 - US History - **Performance Goal:** The percentage of students who earn a 60 or higher on the US history EOC assessment will increase from 49.40% in 2012 to 70% in 2018.
 - We showed gains/improvement in US History.
 - Biology I - **Performance Goal:** The percentage of students who earn a 60 or higher on the biology EOC assessment will increase from 72.8% in 2012 to 81.5% in 2018.
 - Standards have changed in Biology and the test looks a lot different. It looks more like ACT.
 - ACT
 - State testing will be a little different this year. All 3rd year high school students will be able to choose between taking SAT or ACT. Letters went out to parents/students. If students do not turn in the form they will automatically take ACT.
 - A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing courses, which included English, Algebra, Social Science, and Biology.
 - The percentage of MCHS 11th grade students meeting college benchmarks by ACT subtest is above the district percentage and above or right at state percentages.
 - On school level, English and Reading scores increased with Science and Math staying the same.
 - Graduation Rate
 - **Performance Goal:** The percentage of students who graduate with a high school diploma with their class will increase from 84% in 2012 to 95.5% in 2018.
 - Early graduates are calculated into the next year (4th year of high school).
 - College Freshmen Report – 1st Semester of Freshmen Year
 - We are working hard to prepare students for success once they leave Mid-Carolina High School. Some choose to go straight to work and others choose to attend a 2-year or a 4-year college.
 - The data shows how much education is valued in our small rural community.
 - AP
 - The number of AP courses that we offer has increased over the past few years. SIC played a big role with the increase. Administration has worked really closely with our guidance department to increase the number of students taking AP courses. We had 102 students as of last year taking AP and administered 124 exams with 62 passing. That is a 50% pass rate.
 - The rigor of AP courses helps students become better prepared for a 4-year college.
- Additional Comments/Questions
 - Have they considered offering Algebra I again in the 7th grade and Geometry in the 8th grade? This year's junior class is the first group that was not allowed to take Algebra I in the 7th grade. Mr. Cooper's answer was no. Students can currently take Algebra I in 8th grade and then double up math in the 9th grade. Mrs. Scott stated that she has witnessed students struggling with the double math's

that would not normally be struggling. Mrs. Doolittle asked if it was possible for middle school students to come over to the high school and take Algebra I and English I.

- Athletic Booster/Band Booster Update
 - Band Update – Kristi Scott, Band Booster Club President:
 - There will be a Fall Choir Concert next week (Thursday, November 2) at Grace Lutheran Church.
 - One of our buses broke down on the way to Upper State so we had to condense down to two buses. We placed 7th, received a Superior rating, and advanced to the State Finals. This is the second year in a row that we have made State.
 - We have decided to combine the high school and middle school Christmas Concerts to have one concert. It will take place at Mid-Carolina Middle School on December 19th.
 - More than 1/3 of our band students are sophomores.
 - The stand/platform on our practice field is in need of repairs.
 - Band is currently selling fruit. The order and money due date is November 7th.
 - We will perform with the Newberry Band on Friday night.
 - On October 31st we will have a Spooky Lunch Concert with our band and chorus performing.
 - Athletic Update – Ray Cooper, Principal:
 - Girls' tennis is still playing and doing really well. They are competing against Indian Land tomorrow.
 - Football won Friday night.
 - Cheer received first place at the first two competitions, they cancelled their competition at Chapin due to injuries, and didn't do so well at the last competition. We will host the Cheer State Qualifier in November.
 - Swim had several students compete at the State Swim Meet. Ben Hawkins cut 4 seconds on his 100 breaststroke to be named 2017 SCHSL State Champion.
- Next meeting
Monday, November 13, at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.