

# SAC Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2012

## I. Call to order

- a. T.B. called to order the regular meeting of the School Advisory Committee at 2:45 p.m. on April 16, 2012 in room 106, Sigonella Elementary School.
- b. A motion was made and seconded to approve the March minutes. Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

## II. Roll Call

- a. The following persons were present:
  - i. Mr. Ian Coubrough                      Principal
  - ii. Capt. Scott Butler                      NASSIG
  - iii. Cmdr. Eric Vosler                      NASSIG
  - iv. CMC David Graham                      NASSIG
  - v. Mr. J.G.                                      Transportation
  - vi. Mr. T.S.                                      Food Services
- b. School Representatives
  - i. Mrs. S.D.                                      CSI Representative
  - ii. Mrs. S.M.                                      CSI Representative
  - iii. Ms. J.S.                                      Teacher Representative
  - iv. Mrs. H.G.                                      Teacher Representative
  - v. Ms. T.S.                                      Teacher Representative
  - vi. Mr. C.M.                                      School Liaison Officer
  - vii. Mrs. M.B.
- c. Parent Representatives
  - i. Mrs. T.B.                                      SAC Chair
  - ii. Mrs. L.M.                                      SAC Secretary
  - iii. Mrs. L.S.                                      PTO Representative
  - iv. Mr. B.T.

## III. Old Business

- a. None to report at this time.

## IV. Reports

- a. Principal's Report (Mr. Coubrough)
  - i. Currently, 311 students are enrolled.
  - ii. 183 registered for 2012-2013 school year.
  - iii. Saturday AdvancEd begins to arrive.
- b. Command Report (Capt. Butler)
  - i. The Captain will attend the DAC (District Action Committee) meeting at the end of April and asked for issues to discuss at the meeting. Suggestions include:

1. When the new attendance policy came out, the district announced a parent meeting at the end of the year to give feedback. No such session has been scheduled. Frustrations include: no local judgment; no flexibility; balance between command and school leave; policy came out after school year began and travel plans were in place.
2. Funding for Mediterranean School Maintenance Program.
3. Intranet problems at local school.
4. Population will increase because of upcoming NATO family move-ins. Please consider when placing/removing teachers.
5. Administrators and teachers need to have Facebook access during working hours to stay updated during emergencies.
6. PE and Host Nation program will be ½ day position next school year. Some small schools get special allowances for full time specials teachers. He will ask for such allowance. A new, mandatory curriculum includes 60 minutes of PE, art, and music. With only half position specials teachers, it is impossible to make such a schedule.

c. School Liaison Officer (Mr. M.)

- i. Nothing to report.

d. Transportation Report (Mr. G.)

- i. Four drivers reported for passing school buses while loading. One was a repeat offender.
- ii. D.G. asked policy on bus violence that is not witnessed by bus monitor. Answer: it is reported to the principal to investigate. Such an occurrence recently occurred and principal suspended child from the bus for 3 days. If the behavior is repeated, the suspension will be longer, and then expelled from the bus the rest of the school year. Some may even result in school suspension. Also, from now on, ALL serious misbehavior that is reported to the monitor that he/she did not witness, will be reported to the principal for him to investigate.
- iii. L.M. asked about monitors not reporting as much as they used to because they are now required to write the report in English. Answer: Mr. G. will ask monitors to write reports in Italian and ask head monitor to translate.

e. Food Services Report (Mr. S.)

- i. New nutritionist is on the island and food services met with her for the April menu. She will soon take a tour of the facility.
- ii. S.B. will inquire the head of European NEX to ask about the electronic lunch ticket system.
- iii. L.S. applauded the recent effort of food services citing others' comments that this is the best the lunch has been in years.

- f. Continuous School Improvement (Mrs. D.)
  - i. School is ready for AdvancEd visit which include in-brief on Monday; observations on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; parents' meeting on Tuesday (lunch included); and out-brief on Thursday.
  
- g. PTO (Mrs. S.)
  - i. Continue to look for new officers for 2012-2013 school year.
  - ii. Teacher appreciation May 7-May 11.
  - iii. Carnival on May 10. Still looking for volunteers for set up and clean up.
    - 1. CMC will help find volunteers.
  - iv. 1 or 2 author visits are scheduled for next year. MWR will partner with school.
    - 1. Kimberly Willis Holt is offering 3 military school scholarships for 3 day workshops. She was so pleased with her visit to Sigonella in 2011, that she offered Sigonella Elementary one of the first scholarships. She will come in either October or November.
    - 2. MWR is providing a grant, expected to be awarded in May, for an author to visit Sigonella, Naples, and Rota.
    - 3. Mike Thaler, author of the Black Lagoon series, is scheduled to come in September.
    - 4. NEX plans to order extra books of the two authors to have available for purchase.

**V. Open Forum**

- a. J.S. asked to have the very small sign about restrictions on bus loading zone be made much larger and more noticeable. Answer: Public works has a sign shop that only makes small signs. Funding for larger sign will have to come from somewhere and must be ordered from an off base source. Also, school should consider providing a street monitor to direct traffic away from loading zone.
- b. H.G. expressed concern for air quality. When one can see the air, the children should not go outside. Answer: Nurse S. checked with hospital and there are no indicators to make children stay inside. Public Health has no effective standard. The equipment available is for information only. Nothing explains what is acceptable or not. Parents can send in a request for child to stay inside if he/she has air sensitivities.
- c. T.S. wondered about the quality of brown water that comes out of the school faucets. Answer: School water has been tested numerous times and is safe and potable. The brown color comes from piping and it is benign.

**VI. Adjournment**

- a. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:50 p.m.
- b. Minutes submitted by L.M.
- c. Next meeting: May 21, 2012 at 2:45 p.m., Room 106.

