

AGENDA
Jerome Mack Middle School
School Organizational Team Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2018
4 p.m.

1.0 Welcome and Roll Call

Candace Aplin – Present
Betsy Gillis – Present
Rosalia Bautista – Present
Heather Isham – Absent
Karen Villatore - Absent
Maria Arzaluz – Absent

Student Members:

Marilyn Hurtado-Ruelas – Absent
Jade Antonio – Present
Jahaira Martinez- Absent

Roxanne James, Principal – Present

Audience Members present: Sasha Jones & Jessica Houchins

2.0 Old Items

2.1 Review Minutes from last meeting

Minutes read and accepted.

2.2 Parent/Student Perspective of Mack (What are we missing?)

Jade suggested that we add Apple Sparkling water to the Snack Shack.

3.0 New Items

3.1 Counselors Advisory Council

Mrs. Houchins, the school's 8th grade counselor introduced herself and went on to explain the role of the counselor at the school. She discussed the activities and goals of the school's three counselors:

- *Help lower the student absent rate by 10%;*
- * Have a calendar design contest in which students could win a brand new bike for designing a winning page in the calendar;*
- * She discussed Little Sunnies, a Friday after-school group especially for girls where the girls work on creating arts and crafts;*
- *A partnership with the Latina Sorority at UNLV where members come and work with "our girls" to help empower them;*
- *An anger management group being run by Mr. Walker and Mr. L.;*
- *They want to participate in more home visits to help focus on the hopes and dreams of the student and families;*
- * She discussed the girls' and boys' assemblies that were held in the fall for each grade level where the focus was that it was okay to be kind to each other and that students needed to build each other up and not tear them down; Jade mentioned some of the negativity that had been*

occurring and Mrs. James said, “We are what’s inside of us and not our picture.”

- *She discussed the need to have Rigley, the school’s therapy dog, be utilized more frequently with the students;*
- * She explained that the counselors manage the school side of:*

- *Toys for Tots- For students who otherwise would not have had any holiday gifts;*

- *Food Bag Friday where students in need are able to take home a bag of food to help them through the weekend;*

- *School Bell where students who are in need of clothing assistance are able to have services; and*

- *Work with hospitals for students who need more emotional support.*

Mrs. Houchins also informed the team that the counselors work with students individually, in groups, and also in their classes.

3.2 Little (a) Funding 1004 (a)

Mrs. James informed the team that our new superintendent is making changes within the Clark County School District. One of the changes is to do away with the turn-around zone, which means that J. Mack is no longer a turn-around school. She said that there will be three regions in the district and that each region will be comprised of 105-108 schools. She also told the

team that Mr. Jara does not like programs, rather wants funding to be on hiring people, rather than purchasing programs. Hence, Mack will be getting rid of Achieve 3000. She also said that last week the State Board of Education voted to bring in another charter school to partner with 1 of the 8 schools with the lowest test scores. She was doubtful that one would be in the Mack neighborhood as there are already several charter schools within this area.

Mrs. James also informed the team the Mack currently has a partnership with TNTP and that “We like them.” She said that there will be upcoming changes and that we should, “stay tuned.” She added that over the years we have requested for additional funding to assist with plans to improve test scores and each year we had been turned down. She said that two years ago we “got a person” and this year we “got a person and a program.” The additional funding went to hiring more teachers to lower the class sizes in the Math and ELA classrooms.

3.3 Ideas for Parent Involvement

Mrs. James asked the members if they had any suggestions for ideas that might get more parents involved in the activities at school.

**Jade suggested that a survey be sent to parents asking what days and hours they work and what days would be best for them for activities. She also suggested that we*

create a poster that indicated the first 25 students to bring back the responses would get a prize.

**Ms. Bautista suggested that the staff send home more fliers about upcoming events. She also recommended sending text messages to parents to encourage them to attend.*

4.0 General Discussion

4.1 Agenda Planning: Items for future Agendas

Budget development, review, and approval will be at the next meeting as will the school's plan.

4.2 Discussion and Request for Future Meetings:

5.0 Information

5.1 Next-Meeting: After Jan. 21 or 28 – Principal's Conference Room; 4 p.m. As determined

6.0 Public Comment Period (2 minutes maximum allotted)

No public comments other than the input voiced by attendees during item discussions.