

## Freedom High School Principal Advisory Council

### Minutes

September 20, 2022

#### 400 Welcome and Introductions

First meeting of the 2022-2023 School Year PAC meeting. Order of business explained.

#### **PAC General Items**

- Meeting has been opened to all FHS students, staff and students.
- PAC functions:
  - Maintain school-wide perspective on issue
  - Act as a link between the school and the community
  - Encourage engagement of parents and other stakeholders within the school community
  - Work to increase student achievement and performance through transparent operations and shared best practices.
  - We will have elected council officials.
  - PAC meetings will be held once a month.
  - FHS bylaws will be made available upon review and approval of the PAC officials
  - Form for topics that would like to be discussed at PAC meetings will be sent by Friday, 9/30

#### 415 Mrs. Smith, Principal Items:

- The first PAC meeting for Freedom High School and the 2022-2023 School Year. Mrs. Smith shared the following information:
- Freedom High School Demographics with administrators, Instructional Staff, Classified Staff and students.
- Currently we have 2305 students enrolled and we continue to have more families interested in enrolling at Freedom High School. As such, leveling of classes over the next week will follow.
- Our goal is to AIM FOR EXCELLENCE
  - Academic excellence for all students – all students will graduate in four years and will thrive after graduation.
  - We will have a positive climate and culture
  - Family and community engagement will increase
  - Organizational coherence-commitment to build collaborative meaning partnerships and trusting relations will continue.
- We are a Title I School- Title I is established to improve student achievement and help all students meet the objectives of PWCS in English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science Curriculum (aligned with Virginia Standards of Learning)
- Math, English and Science Testing Data shows that overall, Freedom students scored in the highest category in Math, English and Science (level 1). We do need to improve scores with students with special needs by 10 % in both Math and English.

- Graduation Rate is 78.5% with a goal to improve to 95% in three years, Drop Out is 16.8% and we need to improve this by 10% this school year and 1/3 of students have chronic absences (student missing 18 or more days). Student must bring in an excused absent note when absent.
- Continuous Improvement Plan was discussed:
  - Increase community involvement
  - Improve Math and English Test Scores in all subgroups
  - Increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates
  - Safety Plan
    - Increase number of security assistants
    - More visibility – teachers have duties covering areas in the building.
    - Students who cause disruptions by harming/threatening others will have disciplinary consequences and subject to a Principal Informal Conference with the possibility of alternative placement.
- Review of the Lockdown
  - Withing minutes police were on site
  - Several announcements were made throughout the lockdown
  - Instructions were given in English and Spanish when the lockdown was lifted
  - We provided Critical Incident Team the next day. Seven counselors, two social workers, one school psychologist, one new horizon’s counselor is also available to assist with students and continues to be available daily.
- Mr. Annunziata is Freedom High Schools new Athletics Director. He will be meeting with sports groups during flex periods to build relationships and explain expectations for the Athletic Program. Our goal is to grow the entire athletic program and support all students in sports and clubs.
- OTF/Darkside concerns addressed and clarified. Students are allowed to cheer OTF and wear clothing with OTF. Parents were informed that the current OTF label is trademarked. We encourage students and families to cheer with the Freedom Eagles name; for example, Go Eagles, Go Freedom, Eagles Soar..
- Mr. Corey Eaton is Freedom High Schools new Director of Counseling. He reminded families that paper free tutoring system is available and a great resource. He also wanted to inform parents that due to enrollment, there will be leveling of some classes.
- Calendar dates to remember shared.
- Next principal advisory meeting will be determined based off survey.

430 pm Questions on Agenda Items

445 pm Adjournment