

Minutes of Nov. 9, 2015 SAC

Regular meetings of the SAC are on the 2nd Monday of all odd months from 6-7:30 p.m.

Executive Director Raj Solanki presented the Director's Report to the School Advisory Committee.

- Pedagogical Director ElizaBeth Wildemaan and Executive Director Raj Solanki attended two trainings to fulfill requirements for Turnaround schools. They have scheduled the next two weeks to write the UIP draft for presentation at the Nov. 30 community input meeting.
- CSI (Charter School Institute) update includes an amended contract that is due to renew June 30, 2017. Included in the contract are issues regarding compliance with school safety requirements and School Readiness testing and reporting as well as testing schedules with improvement criteria. Mountain Song Community School is striving to earn an accreditation plan type of at least Improvement level as defined by the CDE (Colorado Department of Education) School Performance Framework Report and CSI Annual Review of Schools (CARS). Updated financial policies & procedures are also included in the amended contract.
- In addition, Raj Solanki is pursuing several avenues to bring a music program to MSCS. There will be a parent information night on November 17 to inform parents about the Mozart Strings program and raise interest in the music program.
- Information on current testing via DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), and MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) were presented with data on growth.
- The budget will undergo a revision process based on 271.5 students.

New members of the SAC have received a summary of information about the UIP which was handed out at the previous October 12 open meeting. New members include Mona Megumi Cousino and Patrick Cush.

Co-chairs of the SAC for this year are Debie Bennett and Kacey Smith.

The student-teacher assignment policy has been referred to the Board of Education for further clarification. Raj made a request that the board also complete the grievance policy. Suggestions were made for the Parent Council to ask class representatives to remind parents where to find school policies. The Parent Handbook is available online <http://mountainsongschool.com/wp-content/uploads/MSCSParentHandbook2015-20161.pdf>

The music survey garnered 92 responses with overwhelming support for strengthening the music program, both vocal and instrumental.

The Board of Education has asked the SAC to elicit input from staff and parents from a climate survey with results to be available for the January meeting.

On November 30, 2015, the SAC will sponsor an open meeting for community input regarding the UIP draft. The meeting will be from 6:30-8 p.m. in the library.

Present at this meeting: Raj Solanki, Executive Director; Angelita Surage, faculty; Kacey Smith, Mona Cousino, Athena Rehorst, parents; Debie Bennett, community member; Shannon Root, school board.