

Daniell Middle School's Principal Advisory Council

Agenda/Minutes



Mission: To prepare all students for success

Vision: To be a school that develops successful members of society

January 10, 2024

Daniell Middle School's Principal Advisory Council Members:

- Lisa Duke, PTSA President
- Chinoso Akano, Parent
- Kevin Blond, Top Tier Trees
- Kaci Clark, 2023 Teacher of the Year
- Karina Alarcon, Spanish Teacher
- Amy Stump, Principal

1. Welcome
2. Daniell's Helping Hands Program: Kacy Clark, MOID teacher

Ms. Clark gave an overview of the Helping Hands program that began at Daniell last school year and has continued to grow in participation this year. Ms. Clark teaches our Daily Living (formerly MOID) class and has 8 students in her class. She is continually seeking opportunities for her students to interact with neurotypical students in the general education setting. Last year we developed this opportunity for students to interact and help support the special needs class in a variety of ways: Assisting with getting breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria and carrying it back to the classroom, assisting during their adaptive PE class, helping the students on and off their bus in the morning and afternoon and reading story books to the class.

Ms. Clark shared a success story of a general education student who disliked coming to school and had poor attendance in the past. This year, he has volunteered with the Helping Hands regularly, and now he comes to school every day, his grades have improved, and he has something to look forward to. He interacts in a positive way with the students and has a higher self-esteem since working with the students.

In addition to the benefits for the general education students who participate, Ms. Clark has seen a positive difference in her students as well due to this program. Her students know the names of the general education students who participate, receive high fives and fist bumps as they walk through the halls, and get so excited when another student calls them by name. In Ms. Clark's words, "She feels like her class is a part of the school now, not just housed in the school."

Ms. Clark mentioned that the students who volunteer currently spend about 15- 20 minutes at a time in her room. She would like to look at options where students can apply to work with her students as a connections class. We will look at that moving forward.

3. CCSD Legislative Priorities & School Year at a Glance

We reviewed the CCSD Legislative Priorities and talked about what those could look like if they come to fruition in the local schools. We also reviewed the 2023-2024 school year at a glance facts and discussed them as they pertain to the local school and positive PR about the Cobb County School District.

In addition to the Helping Hands interactions, the MOID class has teamed up with the Intensive English Learner class so that the IEL students can practice their speaking and reading skills with this special class.

4. Upcoming Dates:

- a. Rising 6th grade parent night: Thursday, Feb. 8, 6 pm -7 pm
- b. Rising 6th grade visits: Friday, Feb 9

5. PTSA Grounds Day: Saturday, March 16

6. Reminder for parents to take the GA Parent Survey that was sent out in the Principal's Friday at 5 communication last Friday.

7. Upcoming Meeting:

Wednesday, March 6 Topic: PBIS