

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

November 15, 2023

Daniell Middle School's Principal Advisory Council Members:

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

1. Welcome
Introductions

2. Purpose of the PAC:

The District believes family and community engagement is critical to student and district success. The establishment of Principal Advisory Councils is intended to provide a means by which parents, community members, and school staff can work together to create a better understanding of and mutual respect for each other's concerns and share ideas for school improvement.

This is an opportunity for all of us to promote the positives about Daniell Middle School. We have to work together to get more parents involved in the school, and to advertise the great things that are happening here.

3. Successes for the 2023-2024 School Year:

- a. Revision of the Mission and Vision this school year:
Previous Mission and Vision:

Mission: To prepare all students for academic success

Vision: To be a community that cultivates responsible, creative, and inquisitive innovators of the future.

Current Mission and Vision:

Mission: To prepare all students for success

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

The mission was changed by taking out the word "academic." Success looks different to every student, and we wanted to represent that in our mission.

- b. Third Assistant Principal: Mr. Marshall has been a great addition to the team. Students have built relationships with him, and are more supervised during the day with him on the team.
- c. Recognized as Atlanta United Flags Out School for September: This was so exciting to our students who are soccer fans. We also began an after school soccer club that has over 100 members in it. New soccer goals and pennies have been donated, and we're looking to purchase t-shirts for the students. Sprayberry soccer coaches and students have gotten involved and have an interest in helping our students improve soccer skills as they will be the students who attend Sprayberry in the future.
- d. Awarded \$9,200 at the Cobb Tank Competition: This grant is to create an Interactive Research Lab modeled after the one in the education building at Kennesaw State University. The money will go towards whiteboard paint, vinyl decals that promote the collaboration process, a machine that will produce other graphic organizers to support the research and writing process, tables with whiteboard tops, and electronic markers that record the writing so that information can be saved. Dr. Post, the Media Specialist, and a group of students went before the "Sharks" to present this proposal. They all did a great job! This interactive lab will be the first one in Cobb County.
- e. Staff is Restorative Circle Trained and in Practice: Ms. Alarcon shared the benefits of students sharing in restorative circles. Some of these include building relationships with other students and the teachers, building a sense of community, and even using the circles in academic settings as well to get more student engagement.
- f. Gong: The gong is a way to celebrate students and staff who have "Leveled Up." Students who have earned Honor Roll and Student of the Month have already used it. Coming soon: Students who raise their math and reading inventory will also get to bang the gong. Mr. Blond said they have a similar recognition program in his company. Their theme is "Elevate."
- g. Increased Staff Morale: As an admin team, we are continuously working to raise morale. Staff members recognize each other on a shout out board; they are treated to free lunches and duty-free lunches quarterly; We are working to make sure teachers

request subs early and are helpful to subs when they are here so that more subs will pick up jobs and fewer teachers need to cover classes.

- h. Open and Honest Conversations with staff members: To coach them and help them improve. Sometimes sharing ideas with them about what could take a lesson to the next level is all they need for encouragement and motivation. We have seen a difference in the quality of lessons since we have begun this. Also, the staff is having more and more conversations about common grading among the same subject and grade level. What type of grades are they taking and how many grades per quarter are they taking?
- i. Band Numbers: Mr. Boyle has been amazing for our band program! He is growing the program, even offering an 8th grade band class for students who previously dropped the class and are interested in picking it back up.
- j. Back Field Progress: We continue to look for a company who can help seed/sod the back field for us. Mr. Blond said to let him know when we are ready for Top Tier Trees to come in and help clear the field.

Top Tier Trees would also like to donate hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, and tissues to the teachers at Daniell after the Thanksgiving Break.

Also, Top Tier Trees is collecting for Toys for Tots. They are requesting new, unwrapped toys, blankets, and books. Daniell will also collect donations for them in a box in the front office through December 19. Top Tier Trees will give the donations to the Marine Corps Reserves to distribute to families over the holidays.

- 4. Upcoming Meetings:
 - Wednesday, January 10
 - Wednesday, March 6