

**Cotswold School  
School Leadership Team  
March 25, 2014**

**SLT Members attending**

Erin Ashendorf  
Mary Barlow  
Katie Benston  
Alison Busch  
Katie Catron  
Stacie Fulton  
Joe Knaack  
Jason Oliver  
Fae Shaffer  
Sherese Smith  
Scottie Thompson  
David Thorne

**Chair's Remarks**

Jason welcomed everyone at 6:04pm.

Mary Barlow moved that we approve the December 2013 and February 2014 minutes and Fae Shaffer seconded them. They were approved.

**Principal's Report**

Cotswold has been named a Magnet School of Excellence.

Alison Busch shared that there are now 30 trained and placed mentors. Fae wondered if Cotswold had approached retirement communities; she suggested that some residents might be willing and suitable mentors. Katie Catron is also working on a female mentoring program for next year.

Ms. Hash said that April 4 is the kickoff of the Men of Cotswold initiative. Sherese Smith said that Ashley Sellner is working with the Public Library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County to do a training on early literacy. One idea is to offer this at Naomi Drennan or to parents of rising kindergartners.

Alison will share information via email about a Bridges Out of Poverty course offered through the Mayor's Mentoring Alliance.

Alison asked Ms. Hash about single gender classes, which were one of the strategies recommended through one of the Superintendent's Task Forces last year. Ms. Hash said the school is discussing it, perhaps for fifth grade. Ms. Haughton said they have used single gender grouping in some small groups this year.

Mary Barlow asked about the School Improvement Plan. Ms. Hash said that as a data-driven plan, every point is connected to academic achievement as assessed through the EOGs. SLT receives regular updates about the School Improvement Plan at our meetings.

All of Cotswold's safety and security initiatives will be in place by April 14. CMS added additional lights by the mobiles. May 6 is an Election Day and only the gym will be accessible to the public.

Ms. Hash is on the CMS Bell Schedule Committee. There is a survey coming out that she encourages everyone to complete. Some on the Committee are requesting that elementary and high schools switch times, so that elementary schools would start at 7:15am (starting in school year 2016-2107).

### **Carpool**

Jason asked for an update on the alternative carpool situation. In addition to discussion at SLT and the PTA Board meeting, the school sent home a letter tying carpool to safety and a survey offering an alternative stop nearby at Providence Baptist Church. In response to the survey, only nine parents opted in for a consolidated bus stop; we needed 15. In addition, the PTA sent home a letter, and since then there seem to be improvements. There were additional concerns about adults not waiting at the crosswalk to cross the street and cars parking illegally along the road and blocking the sidewalk, forcing pedestrians to walk in the street and the busses to veer around them.

Ms. Hash said beginning next year, the school will have a more strict policy regarding restricting walkers to students who actually live in the walk zone and discouraging walk-up pedestrians. SLT can help spread the word so that parents make the safety of all students a priority. Sherese is working with a group to discuss support from Sonic as they build an additional building.

### **Governance**

There was a notice sent home regarding openings in SLT for 2014-2015. Jason asked members to help spread the word about joining SLT. He also invited current members to express interest in serving on the SLT executive team.

### **Teacher Updates**

Teachers shared information about their units and upcoming and recent field trips. Fifth Grade Exhibition is May 13, the same date as the last PTA Meeting of the year.

### **Additional Business**

The End of Grade scale is changing from a four-point to a five-point scale. A 3 is still passing; a 4 or 5 is college or career-ready.

Ms. Mullins lauded about the training with Ron Clark. She said that Cotswold does a lot of these initiatives here and will be implementing more. In fact, someone from Dr. Clark's school will be training our staff in August.

Mary Barlow mentioned she has received an email from an SLT leader at Park Road Montessori asking for data regarding how much time Cotswold spends on testing. Ms. Haughton has the information and will respond for Cotswold. Ms. Barlow also mentioned information on Mecklenburg ACTS that she will share.

During the meeting, Jason left and Vice Chair David Thorne presided over the final 10 minutes. David adjourned at 7:12pm.