

# Sugarloaf SAC Board Minutes

## October 10, 2012

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### **Roll Call                      6:00 pm**

Present: Harry Russell; Kelli Fricke Van Stry; Jenny O'Brien; Laurie Cook; Racquel Silvestro; Mindy Conn; Jill Palladino; Joelle Keane

Excused: Ollie Iarrobino

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### **SAC Chair Report - Kelli**

- Minutes approved for September 12, 2012 - Joelle and Racquel
- Introduced Rebecca Palomino to be first speaker on Be Safe/Be Smart Program

Rebecca went over the curriculum that she handed out regarding Speak Up Be Safe. Statistics pretty high (in Florida especially) on kids with some form of exposure to abuse or neglect. Learning gains about 77% when exposed to this type of helpful programs/information. No cost to public schools. Will have to change the script somewhat regarding language. Went over in great detail each grade level and what it entails. For elementary only at this time. Parents may opt-out. Can contact Rebecca at [rebecca.palomino@kyesschools.com](mailto:rebecca.palomino@kyesschools.com) with questions.

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### **Principal's Report - Mr. Russell**

Main subject was classroom size and the changes made to classrooms. Parents concerned why we have to have this change after the school year has started- obviously can't know exactly how many kids will be here until they actually show up. Went over class size (voted in 2002 with 52% voters approval): Kindergarten - 3: 18 students; 4-8: 22 students and high school 25. Third grade and Sixth grade classes were impacted with change of teachers. (Mr. Smoot to middle school and Ms. Smythe to elementary). Discussed why we make changes later in quarter - best to do it once and then start second quarter fresh. Talked about Master Scheduling Process. Take in consideration teacher requests, middle school electives, reading blocks, etc. Other scheduling considerations are band students, ESC and gifted.

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### **Guest Speaker - Superintendent Mark Porter (7:05-7:15)**

Mr. Porter spoke about his background and goals for our schools. Uses the “Rules of Two”. He tries to observe a classroom 2 times a week, attend 2 school events a week, and on a personal goal he likes to write 2 handwritten notes a week. His vision is to improve the climate with the working staff - teachers especially. He wants to incorporate a strategic plan that would involve about 40 or 50 people - half staff ,half citizens, to have discussions for improvement. Mentioned how he wants the county to put the emphasis on the good that he sees in the classrooms and not so much on the financial or past problems.

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### **Other Business**

Touched briefly on the Believe Fundraiser (disappointing contribution) and Enhance the Classroom (also disappointing numbers). Took nominations for Teacher of the Month. Kelli will e-mail us the nominations for our votes.

Meeting Adjourned at around 7:30 pm