



# East Mecklenburg High School

School Improvement Team (SIT)

Thursday, 10 October 2024 (rescheduled from 26 September - Hurricane Helene)

6:00 - 7:00 pm

## SIT MEETING MINUTES

### Team Members

- **Present:** Laine Amortegui; Angela Concha de Hernandez; Steve Drye; Stacy Feldstein; Nyasha Gopo; Kathryn Heinen; Steven Hyland; Maria Papanikolaou; Lorree Riley; Kim Stojkovich; Isaiah Williams; Ann Witmer
- **Absent:** Christopher Fyfe; Devonya Goven-Hunt; Patricia Johnson

### Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting began at 6:00 pm via MS Teams.
- Principal Steve Drye welcomed all attendees who introduced themselves.

### Meeting Schedule / Minutes

Team reviewed the 2024 - 25 SIT Meeting Schedule along with the [minutes](#) from the 29 August 2024 SIT meeting. Minutes were unanimously approved.

### School Improvement Plan Review - Ongoing Assessments

- Principal Drye and Assistant Principal Williams reviewed ongoing benchmark assessments that will be analyzed in order to make adjustments to classroom instruction.
- Principal Drye also noted upcoming district data analysis /data reporting sessions, and shared that these would likely result in slight modifications of the existing School Improvement Plan / action steps.
- Finally, Principal Drye reviewed the dates for the upcoming PSAT, Pre-ACT, and Work Keys.

### Safety Discussion

- Principal Drye discussed the standard operating procedures / process for handling reported threats along with district wide responses to the uptick in threats recently.
- Principal Drye Noted the various ways to report threats including in person, via the SS-ARS App, calling / emailing the school, or contacting police via 911.
- He encouraged parents to share the importance with the students and communities of reporting any threat immediately as well as cautioning students to not “jokingly make threats” as serious consequences are being administered in these cases.

### Homecoming / Senior Recognition

- Principal Drye reviewed the rescheduled senior band / senior athlete recognition, as well as the rescheduled homecoming game and dance .
- He noted that, although Hurricane Helene required this rescheduling, staff and students had worked together to ensure that all activities could optimally occur as desired.

### Proposed cell phone policy revision

- Principal Drye shared a proposed revision to the existing cell phone policy and explained the rationale behind the proposal as increasing academic focus by ensuring phones were off / stored during times students were to be in class.
- He noted that the policy would still allow students substantial freedom to use their cell phones during non-instructional/non-classroom times as well as provide some freedom in how phones would be managed in each classroom.
- He noted that this is being discussed amongst staff and students and will be in place in the next month.

### Staffing 2024- 2025

- Principal Drye discussed current vacancies as follows:
  - Math (2) Teachers
  - English EIT 3 Teacher
  - Leveling Gains: +1 ECGC / +1 English / SS Dual-Certified
  - Counselor
    - Candidate to be hired 1/2025

- Part-time sub filling in
  - EC Assistant - PNA
  - EC Extensions Assistant

**Title IX Review**

- Principal Drye and AP Williams provided a review of the Title IX process and current reporting.
- Both noted that currently, Title IX incidents are very low and noted that efforts to educate students and publicize ways to report are paying off.
- He solicited input from parents concerning additional:
  - Strategic recommendations for preventing sexual harassment in CMS and ensuring that students understand their right to be protected from sexual harassment; and
  - Strategies for ensuring students understand how to report possible sexual harassment and are aware of the school's obligation to promptly and effectively respond to sexual harassment complaints.
- He noted that students would be trained in the coming week on 1) the Safe School Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS); and 2) Title IX in extended Homeroom sessions.
- Team members suggested additional signage / posters to alert students to how to report Title IX offenses

**Closing / Next Meeting**

- Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm
- Next meeting is Wednesday, 30 October 2024 @ 6:00 pm on MS Teams.

**All SIT meetings are open to interested parents or community members.**

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| <b>Teams:</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> | <b>Meeting ID:</b> 251 912 621 053                    | <b>Passcode:</b> AZvhds                      |
| <b>Resources</b>   | <a href="#">SIT Meeting Dates 2023 - 24 (revised)</a> | <a href="#">CMS SIT Handbook 2023 - 2024</a> |