

Minutes for the July 5, 2018 Meeting

Stonecrest City Hall
3120 Stonecrest Blvd
Stonecrest, Georgia 30038

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Barbara Lee. The minutes were not submitted for the previous meeting. They were emailed later to the committee for approval. They will be posted on the website.

Attendees: Mrs. Vickie Turner, Dr. Barbara Lee, Mrs. Sandra Harris, Ms. Nicole Prather

The following topics were discussed:

Mentoring and Scholarships

Nicole reported that her sorority, Phi Delta Kappa, provides scholarships to high school seniors who plan to major in Education. She would like us to support getting applicants for the scholarships because they do not get the desired participation. This is primarily a parent and counselor problem. Nicole will provide more information about the application dates and process.

Eighth Grade Promotion Policy

There is a growing concern about the number of children being promoted within and from Middle Schools without having passed the required Mathematics and Language Arts courses as well as having failed these content areas on the Georgia Milestones Tests. This becomes a burden on the high school with high failures in the ninth grade. One does not see the true picture of those who have not achieved because the principals often put pressure on the teachers to pass the students. Salem Middle School and Lithonia Middle schools have excessive eighth grade students who are promoted to ninth grade despite their failures of both the courses and tests. Several school districts have taken steps to deal with this problem before sending the students to high school. One district that we discovered as we researched is Lee County School System in Leesburg, Georgia. Information was distributed to the attendees by Dr. Lee. They have two different programs that our students can benefit from. Dr. Lee and Mrs. Harris would do more research on this topic. It is rumored that perhaps Henry County and Griffin-Spalding County have similar programs. These programs are commonly called 8.5 programs. Lee County also has a LEAP program that includes 7th and 8th grade "at risk" students.

It is important to build the skills at the appropriate level so that success for the next level can be achieved and maintained.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.