



**WMS**

# SCHOOL COUNCIL

WHITEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
FAYETTEVILLE, GA

## **ATTENDANCE**

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Connie Baldwin, Principal  
Robyn Johnson  
Kay Young  
Stephen Walker  
Ron Smith  
Brent Scarbrough

## **MEETING INFORMATION**

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Mrs. Baldwin opened the meeting by thanking each person for their attendance and participation.

AdvancedED accreditation is now complete. The principals from each school had a heavy workload at the beginning of the process, but it was worth the effort. The accreditation committee was impressed with Fayette County. The school system has received its accreditation, once again, by meeting the standards set forth by the committee.

The schools that were visited by the committee were Bennett's Mill and Rising Starr. All others attended meetings at the county office to meet with the committee members.

Whitewater Middle School put a presentation together for the committee. The video presentation was presented to the board on October 15, 2018. This same video was shown to the school council members this morning. The video highlights the demographics of Whitewater Middle and the feeder patterns of Whitewater Middle.

Fine Arts Department currently is on a field trip to Orlando, Florida. They left at midnight on Tuesday (Wednesday morning) and will return on Friday around 5 or 5:30 pm. Students are attending workshops in their discipline and will be performing in the park. There about 250 students on this field trip.

**Volleyball:** 8<sup>th</sup> grade volley team won the county championship for the 2018-2019 season. The girls and coaches did an excellent job!

**Football:** Whitewater Middle football team went to the championship this year. Unfortunately, the team was beaten in the last few minutes of the game. The boys and coaches worked hard and should be congratulated for their efforts.

**Basketball:** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams are currently in season.

**Whitewater Media Center:** The official open house was on November 1, 2018. There was a fair amount of turn out to see how the updated center is a haven for students to come and learn. The students are enjoying the new look and are requesting to go to the media to get books to read.

**Discipline Email from Administration:** On November 5<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Baldwin sent out an email to the parents regarding the current discipline situation that is occurring at Whitewater Middle (WMS). The email was a positive statement seeking assistance from the parents to talk to their students about current behaviors. WMS has seen an increase by 64% over the previous month with the biggest infractions being disrespect to school personnel and insubordination by refusal to work or follow given directives. Questions arose

from Mr. Walker as to why the school thought this was happening and why the culture of the school is changing. Mr. Scarbrough also voiced that many of the students that are in the system don't actually live in the district. River's Edge community was discussed and what the system is doing about these students. Mrs. Young brought of the fact that many of the student behaviors are from students that are living with grandparents and great-grandparents. The guardians do not know how to handle today's student.

The discipline increase is happening across the county and has increased in every school. All committee members are concerned with the rise in discipline and how the school can handle to get back the school that Whitewater is known for by reputation.

**Thanksgiving Break:** Will begin promptly at 3:10 pm on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> for students and 3:40 pm for staff. We are looking forward to the rest.

**Driftwood:** The annual field trip is coming up for 7<sup>th</sup> grade on December 10 – 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Final Exams:** 8<sup>th</sup> grade will have final exams for first semester beginning December 18 – December 20.

**Winter Break:** Winter break begins on Friday this year, December 21. We will only have a four-day week prior to the break.