

Fireweed Academy  
'Where students learn to view themselves as readers, writers, and problem solvers'  
Academic Policy Committee Meeting  
Approved Minutes  
March 7, 2016

**APC Members Present:** Jon Kulhanek, Brandy McGee, Hannah Gustafson, Kary Brinson, Amber Niebuhr  
Hannah Snow

**Members absent:** Garry Betley, Kate Henry, Crisi Mathews

**Committee Members Present:** none

**Staff Present:** Janet Bowen, Kim Fine, FWA teacher, Kiki Abrahamson, Principal

**Community Members Present:** Joey and Solstice Kraszeski, Sheryl Sotelo

Meeting called to order at 4:30pm

**Public Comments:** Kim Fine reported back from her instructional day at Kaleidoscope. She brought back evaluation samples for teachers and the school that they use and she created a new draft PR flyer that included the why, what and how of our school with an illustration of what makes our school different (attached).

**Motion: Amber moved to approve the amended agenda (putting Joey's comments first), Kary seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion: Jon moved to approve the February 2016 minutes, seconded by Hannah and the motion passed unanimously.**

Joey and Solstice spoke to the need to have more focus on spelling in the class room and with homework. They are expecting from the Fireweed Language Arts program, i.e. spelling, suffixes, prefixes, rules, etc. Joey would like to have an LA folder come home weekly like what goes home for math.

**Administrators report:** Structures expo was terrific, the kids worked hard and did great job with their interviews. West Homer Kids and teachers came and Superintendent Sean Dusek and School Board member Zen Kelly attended. April 4<sup>th</sup> is the next school board meeting and Kiki would like to take a few select kids up to Soldotna with Jon Kulhanek and have the kids present their models.

Kiki reported she received a \$3000 Alaska Learning Environments 2016 transformations grant for creating an outside data collection walkway. She is working with Coowe Walker on this project.

Kiki introduced Sheryl Sotelo, who has a type B certificate as well as a SPED certificate. She is available to work on a contract basis if needed.

**Budget Committee-**Kiki talked about the current budget and the error found in the rent at WHE

**Strategic planning reports:**

**Organizational Values-**no meeting

**One Campus Dream-**no meeting

**Strong Leadership-**no meeting

**On the bus-**no meeting but recent in-service was report card alignment.

**Community relations:** Jon and Janet reported that the committee is in the process of preparing a PR video for FWA. Chris Kulcheski (Director, Writer, Producer) and Beka Thoning (Editor) and Crisi Mathews are helping. The teachers will put forth a few names of kids who can be interviewed and will help them write their script. Parents will be asked to give testimonials.

Crisi has been trying to set up a 'movie night' hosted by Fireweed at the Homer Theater to promote Fireweed. Kiki and the APC feel maybe it should be more of a fundraiser so as to not appear self-promotional. Janet will call the theater and chat with them.

Janet will send email to LFW asking about a Mayday celebration

**Staffing FY17** Suggestions...Kiki retires, cut interventionist position, cut .5 gen ed/.5 sped. Have someone do a contract of 1/2 time SPED. Or case management at .25 with a sped Aide.

**Motion: Hannah G moved to create a survey committee to review the surveys that Kim brought. Hannah Snow 2<sup>nd</sup> and the motion passed.** They will be responsible for getting the surveys to the right people with instructions.

**Motion: at 6:05pm, Amber moved adjourn, Jon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

The next APC meeting will be Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 in room 103

**Submitted by Janet Bowen**