

Academy
'Where students learn to view themselves as readers, writers, and problem solvers'
Academic Policy Committee Meeting
Approved Minutes
Oct. 10, 2017

APC Members Present: Amber Niebuhr, Brandy McGee, Mo Wilkinson, Hannah Snow, Crisi Mathews, Kate Henry, Lynn Kee, Joey Kraszeski

Staff Present: Todd Hindman, Principal, and teachers Jon Kulhanek, Maria Santolupo, Betsy Vanek, Kim Fine, Stephanie Zuniga and FWA Secretary Janet Bowen.

Others Present: Jane Dunn, Kiki Abrahamson, Anna Raupp

Meeting called to order at 4:30pm

Public Comments: none

Motion: Amber moved to approve the agenda with amendments, Lynn seconded and the motion passes with unanimous consent. The letter to the school board and the APC emails was tabled until next month.

Motion: Amber moved to postpone the approval of the August minutes for a change of verbiage regarding the rollover funds from last year, Lynn seconded and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion: Hannah moves to approve the June and September 2017 minutes. Amber seconds and the motion passes with unanimous consent.

Administrator's report:

We currently have 54 students in Little Fireweed and 68 at Big Fireweed. The swing sets are being set in concrete with the help of volunteers and Gregoire construction now. We have an in-service day on October 20th and the teachers will participate in a Socratic Seminar Workshop. Todd has advertised for an Instructional Aide Position for LFW, it was posted yesterday. The position is .67 FTE and the new person will work 8-1pm.

Todd is looking in to making the LFW classrooms self-contained. This involves adding more sprinkler heads and we can bring the walls to the ceiling and add doors. Dave Ritchie is good with these modifications and Todd is contacting the State Fire Marshall. The parking lot needs improvements, Dave Ritchie will be in to talk to Todd about this.

The projected enrollment was due 10-1-17 and Todd estimated it at 112. This would give us enough for an extra cert staff person. We need more space at Big Fireweed/WHE. Eric and Todd will work on an MOA for this.

Library Committee report Crisi Matthews has been working on the Library in Todd's room. They are using the Accelerated Reader program. Kids have been tested. Books will be grouped by grade level when the library gets re-organized.

By Law Committee: No comments came in from parents. The Bylaws will be put on next month agenda for discussion.

PR Committee: Do we want to do Share the Spirit movie night again? The cost is \$300, last year we paid the fee and donated all the money. This will be put on next month's meeting agenda.

Crisi brought up the idea of new signage at both schools. Dan Co works for \$50/sq foot. Crisi will get more info on this.

APC Membership:

The survey monkey election showed Megan Palma as having the most votes for the parent rep but she decided not to join the APC. Jane Dunn had the second most votes.

Motion: Amber moved to appoint Jane Dun to be a parent representative, Mo 2nds and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion: Hanna moved to appoint Jon Kulhanek to the staff representative, Amber 2nds and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Amber moved to appoint Crisi Matthews to the student representative position, Joey 2nded and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion: Crisi moved to appoint Amber Niebuhr to the community Representative position, 2nded by Kate and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Lottery Language discussion:

We have a healthy census, 121 at the moment and more kids wanting to come in. There are no caps to enrollment in other district schools. There were caps and a waitlist in Nome where Todd came from. Todd says we would need to talk to school board members to amend out contract. Kiki gave a brief history of our census and state funding. We would like to strive for grade balance. For instance, when are large 4th grade exits from 6th grade in a few years and we only have 17-18 kindergartners coming in, this may affect our staffing due to reductions in our budget. There is concern about facility space, tables and chairs, bathrooms, and what can teachers handle? Mo talked about the limits of the LFW facility-4 student toilets, no kitchen, no gym. Hannah would like to adopt language in the charter to limit enrollment.

Possible guest speaker:

Crisi mentioned that Assembly member Kelly Cooper is very knowledgeable about raising money for facilities and it may be beneficial for her to come talk to us as we proceed with our letter to the school borough.

PEAKS: Todd presented PEAKS results in Math and Language Arts.

Parent Survey:

Todd Handed out Parents surveys results from spring 2017

Fundraiser:

Todd talked about ‘Baby Loves Disco’. FWA father Nelton Palma would donate time to be the DJ. Maybe this is a good fundraiser to do when we have the 501(c) (3) set up for the building fund.

Lease:

The LFW Lease needs to be addressed, we are on a one-year extension. The committee will meet.

Little Fireweed space:

Mo reported that the facility is full. With 54 students. They are overflowing in the lunchroom, not enough bathroom stalls, low support staff and no room for specialists. There is no gym, no kitchen, the teachers feel this facility needs an enrollment cap.

Todd is looking for the proposal that speaks to the recommended ratio. We need an official number that allows us to say we are at capacity.

Todd will check to see if we have been charged for use of the OT room (which is our through MOA) and the music room at Big Fireweed)

Motion: Brandy moved to start a waitlist for the K-2 facility effective October 11, 2017, 2nded by Kate and the motion passed unanimously.

School Climate Survey:

The district created this for 3-12th graders to be available after the holidays.

Principal Evaluations:

These are due December 1st. There is a new process and Todd and Amber met with Jon O’Brien about this. Todd passed out samples we can use or we can create our own. Kim will work on new questions.

Motion: Hannah moved to adjourn, Mo 2nded and the motion passed with unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 6:18pm

Meetings will now be held the 1st Monday of the months. The next meeting is Monday, November 6, 2017 4:30pm in room 104 at Big Fireweed.

Submitted by Janet Bowen