

Fireweed Academy
'Where students learn to view themselves as readers, writers, and problem solvers'
APC Approved Minutes
8-14-2013

Members Present: Kary Brinson, Kristen Metz, Matt Strobel, Kelly Behen, Stephanie Zuniga

Members absent Kathy Vogl

Staff Present: Janet Bowen, Jon Kulhanek, Deb Schmidt

Guests: Multiple FWA parents

Meeting called to order at 4:37 pm

Public Comments: none

Approval of Agenda: Stephanie Zuniga moved to approve the agenda as is, Kary Brinson seconds and motion passed with unanimous consent.

It is agreed upon to address the 2nd grade options first as that is what many of the guests here want to discuss.

2nd grade options:

Kiki cleared up rumors. She stressed this would be a parents option, not a forced move.

Responses to Kiki's request for feedback regarding moving the second graders to Big Fireweed:

10-no response

6-maybe they would consider it

9-preferred to stay at little fireweed

1-yes, they would move

Some ideas/concepts generated:

1. Each parent has different variables and opinions about what is best for their children
2. Children reactions depend on how you frame it to the student.
3. There is the option to try the move and if it doesn't work, go back to LFW.
3. We will need lots of parent support at Little Fireweed this year.

Ultimately, parents need to decide what is best if they prefer to stay at LFW knowing that there is no aide support and big classes (20 in each) or move to BFW knowing that there will be a 2/3 class and staff will differentiate instruction in order to meet the needs of those students.

At this point, all students who are enrolled as 2nd graders will remain at Little Fireweed UNLESS they contact Janet and ask her to switch their child to Big Fireweed.

Kiki thanked everyone for their input and discussion.

Administrators report:

Kiki announced:

- David Left, new halftime SPED, half time regular teacher.
- Coming activities for students: KBRR discovery Lab setup, Link Up Program with Carnegie Hall, Art projects at the Homer Senior Center with Volunteer Kim Perkins
- Early release days, time for teacher collaboration.
- School Improvement Plan
- Effective leadership Evaluation System
- New district policy regarding only 1 open door in each facility-main West Homer door at BFW and middle door at LFW..

Budget:

There is an increase in rent by \$200 per month due to the borough charging Dave Ritchie tax.

Kiki's schedule for the coming year: 3-6 LA in the mornings, LFW in the afternoons. She will be participating in an Alaska Administrators coaching project 3 times per year, journaling with Dr. Atwater, and Peer Calibration Teacher Evaluations with Nancy Cline Nanwalek/Port Graham and Judy Standafer from Susan B English School.

Kiki went over the School Improvement Plan, introduces ASPI and explained why we are a four star school- due to absence.

Alaska Association for Elementary School Principals:

Kiki suggested that we join the Alaska Association for Elementary School Principals. The membership is \$600/year.

Motion: Kary Brinson moved to approve spending \$600 on a membership to AAESP, Seconded by Stephanie Zuniga.

Discussion: what do we get from this organization? Liability insurance, entrance to conferences. monthly teleconferences. **Motion passed with unanimous consent.**

APC membership:

Amanda Miller, no longer with the school district, has resigned. This leaves 2 openings, a Staff rep and a student rep.

Motion: Kary Brinson Moved to appoint Hannah Gustafson to fill the student rep position until 10/13, Kelly Behan seconded. **Motion passed unanimously** with no discussion.

Motion: Kelly Behan moved to adjourn at 6pm, Stephanie seconded and **motion passes with unanimous consent.**

Submitted by Janet Bowen