School Community Council Meeting Notes  
Tuesday, October 13th, 2020

Parent Members Present: Jeralyn Kjar, Stephanie Rees, Elizabeth Slick, Amy McLaughlin, Mayra Pinon

Staff Members Present: Maile Loo, Megan Angell, Misty Morrow, Aimee Duran, Cheri Jacobson

Visitors Present: None

Meeting called to order at 4:31 by Ms. Loo.

Everyone was welcomed to and thanked for attending. Ms. Loo asked if everyone had reviewed the prior meeting notes and were prepared to approve them. Amy McLaughlin made a motion to approve and Stephanie Rees seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Loo let the Council know that we needed to approve a Parent Chair and asked for any volunteers. The Vice-Chair can be a staff member, but the Chair needs to be a parent. Elizabeth Slick volunteered to be our Chairperson and Stephanie Rees seconded her. All were in favor. The Vice-Chair last year was Jeralyn Kjar. Ms. Loo asked if she still wanted to serve and she agreed to. All were in favor.

Ms. Loo moved on to share changes that were made in the budget. We started out with $278,004 and as of 10/9/2020 we were at $267,751.41. The original intention was to use this budget to pay for extra periods for teachers. When our 10-1-2020 FTE report was pulled we were surprised by our student enrollment count. We were able to save the Trustlands and pay out of school FTE for all teachers and extra periods this year so the Council can spend it in other places.

We were looking at spending some money on site licenses for software. Ms. Loo turned to Aimee Duran to explain what we were looking for. Aimee Duran explained that some teachers had asked for various programs to help them serve both in-person and online learners. A survey was sent out to collect potential software requests and another survey was sent to vote on the suggested titles.

Misty Morrow asked if we got a good response from the faculty. Aimee indicated that about half of the faculty voted. Misty understood and expressed that she and other teachers felt overwhelmed and did not need one more thing to reply to or train on. Aimee explained that there will be no training requirements for the purchased software, but that training will be offered for those who would like to attend.

Stephanie Rees asked why we were looking for site licenses when we could just purchase for those teachers who were interested in the product. Aimee agreed, but explained that some of the software requires a site license in order to use them within Canvas. If they don't require it we will look at individual licenses.

Misty Morrow commented that many of the programs seemed geared towards the English department. Aimee replied that Newsela would be the only one used only for English because Social Studies and Science decided that they were not interested in the program. The rest of them would be able to be used across all subjects. Science requested Brain Pop and Turning Point was mainly requested by math
teachers to do checks for understanding, but we will need to see if we already have programs that are similar to it. Misty stated that she voted for that program to have easy checks for understanding that didn’t need to be embedded in a Nearpod. She is okay with spending the money if we have it.

Misty made a motion to approve the funding. Elizabeth Slice seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Ms. Loo assured the council that we won’t spend more than the $50,000 that was approved.

Ms. Loo went on to discuss some COVID updates. This building is open 24/7 when it comes to contact tracing and reporting cases. Ms. Loo is the contact for the CDC and each case takes them about three hours to complete with the help of the letter generator. We are seeing a lot of positive cases coming from outside of school spreads. Many college students and bringing it home from the dorms and staff members have seen it come from members in their homes.

Ms. Loo is doing all she can to keep the building safe and open. She does all the contact tracing and is responsible for the letters to put the students on quarantine. She only looks at the student numbers, not names to make sure everything is ethical. Teachers have been asked to use the seating charts in Gradebook moving forward. This will help shave some time off the process as well. Last Friday she spent eight hours processing cases and returns and then received two more on Saturday. She spent twenty-two total weekend working hours. She feels like the quick responses will help keep us safe. The Governor has mentioned that if the school can prove the kids were both masked while sitting next to the positive case we may be able to avoid quarantine. Ms. Loo feels like the kids are good about masking and they are constantly handing out masks in the hallway. She believes our opening plan is working and we have enough supplies for all the teachers.

Concern over the discrepancy between what we believed our numbers to be and what was showing on the District COVID Dashboard. Maile will be in touch with the CDC to get it cleared up. There has also been some concern about how often the rooms are being sprayed at night. She believed it to be every night, but has been told it may be every other night. Due to this information it was decided that teachers will have students start wiping down every 4th period as well to make sure we are covered. Ms. Loo stressed that our supplies are sufficient and anyone who has asked for additional items has received them.

She also informed us that the kids have been very well behaved this quarter. We have only seen two suspensions in eight weeks - one for vaping and one for carrying an empty beer bottle. We have just over 1,000 students on distance learning. This may change with the beginning of the new quarter, but not by many (under 100). Misty Morrow asked if a letter went out informing the parents. Ms. Loo let her know that the District sent an announcement that they could switch with the new quarter, she included this information in her Sunday update on our website and social media sites, and the forms have been posted on our website as well.

Ms. Loo let Elizabeth Slick (our new Chair) know that she will be creating the agenda moving forward. She should send it to Aimee Duran at least a week in advance and Ms. Loo will send her any school business that will need to be added to the agenda.

Final questions were called for and the meeting was adjourned at 5:01.

Next meeting on Tuesday, November 10th, 2020 at 4:30 in the Library.