

William Penn Elementary
Community Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Meeting Start Time: 7:30 a.m.

Location: via Zoom

Attendees:

Parents: Jenny Hamilton, Jenn Jones, Sidsie Drysdale, Gabriella Archuleta, Katie Norton, Annie Karren, "Andrew"

Teachers/Staff: Nichole Higgins, Mindy Graham, Judy Ginsberg, Giselle Feria

Agenda Item #1: Approve meeting minutes from September 22, 2020

Motion to approve: Sidsie Drysdale

2nd Motion: Katie Norton

Agenda Item #2: Training Video Nichole Higgins shared video

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88dw5vN_pXg&t=117s) of Nancy Kennedy, chairman of the Trust Lands Advisory Committee, discussing the roles and responsibilities of School Community Councils. The Council reviewed William Penn's Community Council website. At least one week prior to meeting, Nichole will post the meeting agenda plus the minutes from the previous meeting. Goal is to also email upcoming agenda to community with previous month's minutes in preparation for next meeting.

Agenda Item #3: Review Distance Learning Disclosure

The Distance Learning Disclosure outlines the expectation and standards of teachers providing education to students via distance learning and the expectations of families and parents in supporting their children and educators.

Discussion between council members on quality of Distance Learning education and some challenges teachers and students/families face. It was noted that it seems to be more effective to have a dedicated DL teacher than to have one teacher doing distance learning and face to face instruction. Mindy Graham and Judy Ginsberg mentioned that as teachers, some of the things they have been doing to support students and parents are: making videos of lessons, making video tutorials for parents, sending screenshots to parents, teaching children at the beginning of the year how to navigate online learning, and slowly introducing new computer programs/skills weekly instead of all at once.

Jenny Hamilton raised the idea of looking into how to provide continuity with assigned classwork between teachers and classes in Google Classroom. Many teachers post assignments differently and it may be helpful, especially for families with multiple children, to have consistency in how classwork is assigned. Some issues to consider with this would be the learning pace of the children and the necessary flexibility of a teacher being able to change or adapt the assignments based on the daily needs of the students.

Gabriella Archuleta asked how non-native English speaking families are doing with distance learning. Nichole said she works with the school social worker to connect with those families. Those students have either returned to face to face learning or are doing well with distance learning.

The Council discussed distance learning on Fridays and use of chromebooks. Some students may be using chromebooks for other things than classwork. Clarification was provided that work on the computer should be no more than 3 hours per day and 1 hour per day on distant learning Fridays. Mindy mentioned that there may be a little more time required than that because assignments such as Lexia and Wonders are things that all students, including face to face learners, are expected to do at home after school. Parents should reach out to teachers if there are concerns with distance learning assignments.

Nichole asked for a discussion on the A/B schedule for Spanish/English days to be added to the agenda for November.

Meeting End: 8:30 a.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 @ 7:30 am

Location: via Zoom