Durbin Creek Elementary School Advisory Council

Meeting minutes for Tuesday, May 9, 2017

Start: 3:37 End: 4:17

**Welcome and call to order:** Kara Bird, chairperson.

**Review April 2017 SAC minutes:** motions made; approved.

**Needs-Assessment survey results:** Ms. Fuller reviewed survey results with the group with the aid of projected graphs and pie charts. There were a total of 358 respondents, with some skipping various questions. She shared that whenever a question is answered “yes/always” or “yes/frequently” it is considered a positive response. When put together as a total percentage, results for our survey indicate the following percentages of parent respondents for various topics:

98% feel students are safe at school.

92% feel school rules are applied equally.

90% feel welcome at Durbin Creek Elementary School.

92% had a positive opinion about communication from the school.

75% report that their child/children use technology to complete assignments.

 88% believe teachers use a variety of different techniques to teach.

The following percentages believe their child’s needs are being met in Language Arts 91%; Math 87%; Science/Social Studies 90%; Creative/Critical Thinking 90%.

Most prefer to receive communication through email or text.

Administration is accessible: 72% (includes many who answered “n/a”)

90% feel DCE offers opportunities for parent involvement.

Technology: many would like to see ipads/laptops/traditional computers used in the school.

 86% feel we are meeting needs of our students in our resource subjects.

When asked what additional resource class they would like to see added to the rotation, top choice was foreign language. Ms. Fuller advised that this would not be realistic as there is a critical need in secondary schools for these teachers and we could only offer once a week. So, Technology and PE was a tie. We will be seeking another PE teacher .

Ms. Fuller shared that overall the results were positive, there seemed to be four respondents who were consistently negative in their answers. While these are anonymous surveys, she hopes to at least be able to ascertain if any apply to a specific grade level, so that any problems or unmet needs can be addressed.

Complete survey results can be viewed via link on our school website.

**Principals report**: Ms. Fuller advised that the new budget that our state house and senate signed will hurt schools because a large amount of funding is now slated to go to a charter school association that will take over some “D” and “F” schools (we have none in this county). Best and Brightest for teachers: if highly effective they can go back and get ACT or SAT scores for a bonus. All of these plans will reduce per student funding to its lowest since 2008. Hoping Governor Scott will VETO ths budget. Our county alone will have to reduce budget by 1 million per year. Affects summer programs, etc.

But DCE is growing and will keep on moving to reach goals. We will be cautious with hiring. Projected for 18% growth, and plan on being good stewards of what we have. Many ideas being proposed to cut expenses.

Parent asked what other options can happen with budget cut. Answer: some positions can be consolidated, clerical, deans, etc. (will cause more work for someone)—and most have too much on their desks as it is. Perhap AP’s go back to 10-month, etc. Expectiation is there will be displacement of employees.

**Funds request:** Accelerated Reader program for grades 2-5. Requesting $4600 due for renewal of subscription in July. PTO will still do the celebrations, pep rally’s etc. Hoping for a business partner to sponsor AR in the future. Approved.

**Focus group report:** none. Ms. Van Meter reports next meeting will be in the fall.

**Comments:** Ms. Fuller thanked SAC members for their time this year.

**Members present:** Angela Fuller, Kara Bird, Teri Heath, Jennie Jones, Renee Labaw, Jan Phillips, Christie Ball, Ann Nguyen, Amber Van Meter, Michelle Sharp, Robin Zuckerman

**Members absent:** Danielle Coates, Stephanie Williams, Troy Mack, Rachel Hughes

**Guests:** Lacey Boswell