

Durbin Creek Elementary School Advisory Council

Meeting minutes for Tuesday, October 9, 2018
Start: 4:00 End: 4:38

Welcome and call to order: Sherri Kuczewski

Review September 2018 minutes: motions made, approved.

Principal's report: Ms. Fuller first asked that Ms. Stanton share math curriculum information for next year. Ms. Stanton explained how curriculum is reviewed, submitted, and approved. She shared that we need an adoption committee to include parent, business partners, and administration to help determine our top three choices. She said being on the committee can be very exciting. Ms. Fuller added that whatever is chosen will be used for 5 years. Added that a previous curriculum "Go Math" now does not meet our standards/teachers don't really like it (adopted 5 years ago). No print materials can be reviewed, but internet links are provided. Ms. Cosgrove added that sometimes publisher reps will offer print materials, but we are not allowed to request-- just links to online info. Ms. Cosgrove explained how the state determines which publishers "make the cut" to be considered. We decide best fit for us, especially as it coordinates with IT. Math is a struggle for many students. If interested, let Ms. Stanton, or Ms. Fuller know.

School Improvement Plan (SIP) Presentation: Ms. Fuller shared presentation as shown to School Board in mid-Sept. All the Creek schools presented at same time. Our enrollment was 775, then went to 792 in Sept. Now we are at 808 (three started today). With a rainy day today, Space House classes were housed inside today in case of severe weather. Shared that she checks radar to determine need to move. Proactive.

Goals: Our 73% lowest quartile made gains in math. So we will now try for 75%. This year's goal is specifically focused on ESE students. Math and Science proficiency increased last year. We had more STEAM activities. Every grade level represented with activities on STEAM night. May 14, 2019 will be our STEAM night this school year.

Needs-Assessment: ELA reading and writing is what we need to work on this school year. PLC's focused on math last year. This year focus is on both. We want to increase gains to 57% of students. ESE students' gains were lower than average, so we have goal of 60%. Our diversity has changed with socio-economics and ethnicity. Ms. Walker explained Project Wisdom that aligns with CC and can go along with current events; lessons of how to encourage each other, deal with tragedy, etc. Often includes mention of making good choices.

What makes DCE unique: after-school activities, clubs. PLC's---collaboration is not optional. When we hire new teachers---team of staff also involved in interview process. Must be vested in the new hire—otherwise that teacher will not succeed.

Ms. Speer shared that some rezoned parents are very happy with their teachers. Ms. Cusack shared that she feels very much a part.

Ms. Fuller went on to share goals from our actual SIP document. We are very concerned which students are in the lowest quartile; ESE students (some sort of disability—can be emotional, language, etc.) Most who did not make gain were ESE, and we want to remedy that. We will be getting another ESE teacher since our enrollment has increased. Ms. Walker oversees all ESE programs.

Positive PLC (professional learning community) culture. Free/reduced lunch percentage has increased. Minority enrollment has increased to 31%. We try to use a common vocabulary with Character Counts! lessons and Project Wisdom. Student goal: be kind/do your best. Always looking to the positive. Character Counts! celebrations will be in the evening, twice during the school year. Less issue with signing in.

Once our SIP is officially approved, it will be available to view on our website.

Next meeting: November 13, 2018 at 4:00.

Members present: Angela Fuller, Sheri Kuczewski, Teri Heath, Jan Phillips, Teresa Padgett, Mike Anderson, Christie Ball, Tamara Caudill, Kristin Efrat, Nicole Franklin, Ana Lucuti, Terry Speer, Kerry Sullivan, Rajani Vijayakuman, Tanisha Rose, Stephanie Celender, Casey Cusack

Members absent: Melissa Hatcher, Carey Blumberg

Guests: Lorrie Cosgrove (District Buddy), LaVerne P. Walker (Assistant Principal), Katrina Stanton (ILC)