

DURBIN CREEK SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting minutes for Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Start: 4:03 PM End: 4:36 PM

Recorder: Dara Giddings, SAC member and parent

Welcome and Call to Order: Mrs. Kepner

Review of October 2022 Minutes: Correct last name of Loww to Lowe in the Members present.

Motion to approve: Indra Boyapolly, Seconded: Danielle Jackson

SAC Chair or Co-Chair Interest: Mrs. Heath asked about any members interested in being a SAC chair or co-chair as soon as January 2023. Next year both positions will become available. Mrs. Kepner would like to step down as soon as January, due to personal schedule conflicts, but will continue to serve as co-chair through the end of the year if there is no one interested. If you are interested and would like to know more about the behind the scenes work of the SAC Chair, please reach out to either Mrs. Kepner or Mrs. Heath.

District Focus Group Report: Shannon Phillips was not present. Mrs. Heath will reach out to her and see if she can email SAC the notes from the meeting.

Principal's Report with Mrs. McCormick:

- We are entering another busy season at Durbin Creek. Today (11/15) Mrs. Romero, the music teacher, lead the school through their Veterans Day Performance.
- Tomorrow (11/16) is the district recognition of the school employee of the year, this year it is Jennifer Muñoz, one of our paraprofessionals at the school.
- We will be having the Human Sundaes on Monday (11/21) as a reward from our hugely successful Fun Run.
- We have heard that we must make up the day (11/10) from Hurricane Nicole. This will be on February 6 and Superintendent Forson will be sending out that communication.
- We have had lots of questions about the Pre-K spots in our program. We have 12 spots available. We have 3 classes that are an ESE blended class, and 1 class that is Full ESE. The lotto for these spots usually opens in January, with an application on our website. Families will usually know by the end of January if they have been chosen.
 - Question from Indra Boyapolly: These spots are still limited to the 12 spots?
Answer: Yes, ESE drives those numbers. Pre-K world is a lot of fun, and there is always a lot going on there.
- We have a break next week, then we are back for a few weeks before winter break. Our teachers are working very hard to stay on track with their curriculum.
- Our Second Progress Monitoring period is starting soon. We now do the STAR testing for our Pre-K thru 2nd and FAST testing for 3-5 graders. We learned a lot from the first testing period, and we have new guidance from the district for this next session. Parents will be receiving communications from their teachers once the dates are picked.

- Mrs. Romero is planning to have a Winter Concert and we are very excited that programs are coming back to Durbin
 - Question from Danielle Jackson: Will there be chorus in the spring? Answer: Yes.

Comments:

- Indra Boyapolly: Recently my daughter has had the flu and then pink eye, are there any plans to help kids get back up to speed after they have had a lot of time out of school?
 - McCormick: We have sent communications out to parents to be mindful of the sicknesses going around during this time of year. We have two amazing nurses at DCE this year and they have been doing a great job to check in with us and let us know what trends they are seeing. The nurses also communicate with our custodial staff so that we can take extra precautions in classes where a lot of students have been sick, without skipping somewhere else. We have been short-staffed in our custodial department but have just hired 2 and possibly a 3rd new employees. We have also communicated with teachers and have added wipes into their common areas. The teachers have been wiping down surfaces and door handles – which are the biggest germ spreaders. We have had a few issues with parents sending their kids back too early with fevers. We have spoken individually with those parents.
- Indra Boyapolly: Can we offer masks?
 - McCormick: Students always have the right to wear masks, and we do still have several students who wear them daily. We have masks available if students want one, but we cannot require them to wear a mask.
- Indra Boyapolly: During the Boosterthon prize patrols, we had concerns about the students that were opening the doors. This is a security concern; can we instruct the teachers that students shouldn't open the doors?
 - McCormick: There are a lot of moving parts in the classroom each day, but that does not mean that instruction is more important than safety. We will talk to the teachers, thank you for feedback from parents who are walking the walk.
- Indra Boyapolly: Have we made purchases with the funds raised from Boosterthon?
 - McCormick: It is a process with the district for approvals then we need to place the order with the vendors. The timing of everything can vary and depends on the district.
- Indra Boyapolly: Can we spend the money on the other things we talked about?
 - Dara Giddings: We ended up raising around \$56,000; when we set the goal of \$40,000, we had not decided what we were planning to spend the money on yet. Purchasing all the laptops that we need will be more than \$40K. Because we do not know what the final cost amount will be for the laptops, we likely will not spend any of the money until those are ordered and we have the invoice.
- Danielle Jackson: Do we have an update on the Marquee?
 - McCormick: We have power! But no one knows how to use it yet. Hopefully it will be up and running soon.
- Indra Boyapolly: Today there were a lot of cars parked on the field and the gate were open, while kids were out there.
 - McCormick: Because of the Veterans Day we had our staff park on the field. Our extended day program is aware of this and watching the kids. The gates were closed

during the day, but we needed to open them to let staff go home.

We are very land locked here, so parking at big events is difficult. These problems and solutions need to go through the district. At the beginning of the year, we were projected to have 1000 students, we haven't hit that yet, but we will and so safety and parking is a lot to consider. All the solutions are structural. I have a lot of concerns about Racetrack Road, it is not always parents, but sometimes it is parents, and it presents quite a challenge.

- Danielle Jackson: And our current zoning goes to Phillips?
 - McCormick: Yes, Cypress Trace down by the new Winn Dixie. The apartments there are partially opened, and we have had students start from there. Julington Creek Elementary down the road is already over 1000. There has been some slight re-zoning this year to leave pockets for growth, but those don't really affect us. There are new schools planned for within the next 5 years to alleviate some of this growth. We are still getting new kids every day. A lot are from out of the country and a lot are from Duval. Last year we grew faster, and it has been slower this year, but a lot is contingent on the apartments.
- Tarra Lowe: When does Kindergarten registration open?
 - McCormick: Usually March; this is usually the slowest registration and makes it difficult when you want to do class lists, but our community did very well last year, and it wasn't a sudden rush in the end. We will communicate in the spring, but parents can't register until they have the address.
- Indra Boyapolly: I did a dismissal change the other day and it took 20 minutes for my daughter to come out, she is Kindergarten, but I saw 5th, 4th, and 3rd grade come out. I thought Kindergarten came out first.
 - McCormick: Kindergarten comes out first when you are doing car line, pick up and 5th graders wait in the classroom, 5th grade should not have been out first.
 - Indra Boyapolly, Sorry, I meant for bike pick up.
 - McCormick: 5th grade does come out first for biker/walker pick up on both sides and Kindergarten is last. We found that 5th graders are bigger and move faster, so you can probably come a little later if you are picking up a Kindergartener at biker/walker.

SAC Meeting Date: Next meeting December 13, the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Adjournment: Motion: Indra Boyapolly, Seconded Danielle Jackson

Members Present: Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Heath, Mrs. Kepner, Mandi Kinzig, Dara Giddings, Danielle Jackson, Erica Warwick, Kyle Cribbs, Indra Boyapolly, Carol Hardison, Mike Anderson, Melissa Snyder, Tarra Lowe, Kelli Vance, Keysha Dixon, Jill Tor, Ashley Bunnell

Guests: Janie Olson, Jenelle Dunathan