Durbin Creek Elementary School Advisory Council

Meeting minutes for Tuesday December 14, 2021

Start 4:00 End 4:30 PM

Welcome and call to order: Teri Heath

Approval of the November 2021 SAC meeting minutes: Approved- M.Morin, seconded by C.Gurdak

Shannon Phillips attended the District's December FOCUS meeting, and she shared the following notes-

New State Assessment was discussed, allows teachers more teaching instead of testing. They are called Best Standards and is customizable. No one has seen the new tests. There were concerns for students with IEP and ESE accommodations. One of the good things about the new test is that for writing composition students will be able to write about what they've learned in Social Studies, Science versus a cold read. It is a computer-based test, therefore concerns for students that are not technology savvy. The district is also investing in professional and social emotional development for teachers as well as recruiting. There were 4,500 surveys completed out of the 15,000. District asked the community to reach out to our senators through their online contacts to request additional funding that they wish to be accomplished and aligned with the school goals. Growth in SJCSD has been of 20%, covid has not impacted growth. There has been salary raises for teachers, the district is also asking to change the law where retired teachers don't have to wait for a year after retiring to return to work. The district is in need of staff. Main goal is to focus on professional development as we have professionals that their main educational background is not teaching.

The police and fire department has requested for schools to reach out to invite them to be able to create a positive relation with students of the community.

Principal Report:

Steps to normalcy are being taken teachers are inviting one volunteer at a time for essential work. We are starting to see more parents getting involved through a pre-scheduled arrangement. This gets shared with our front office prior to the date to verify school access. Teachers are starting to plan field trips

New change to the website with a "student absence form". No need for parents to send in a written note, they can upload a dr.'s note or write an excuse note on the digital form.

Mrs. McCormick mentioned that teacher's progress monitoring included two evaluations plus a summative. It was also discussed how in January teachers will be working on engaging strategies for students. Along with professional development that will help teacher learn more about their grade level new standards. At Durbin teachers meet during their PLC time to plan together an discuss students needs. Every Wednesday a different grade level gets a day to meet and discuss interventions, professional development, and enrichment opportunities for students.

VPK lottery registration will open and run through the end of January 2022.

The second quarter of our school year 2021-2022 will be ending December 21, 2022. Report cards will available after winter break. The school had an opportunity to send two teachers for a professional

development and new school initiative called Capturing Kids Heart. This is being considered for our school to be on the same language across all the grade levels.

Transportation issues unfortunately the school does not have any jurisdiction over them. However, parents can contact the Transportation department get involved and advocate appropriately.

Vote in new members: No new members were voted in.

Ms. Heath reminded the attending members and participants that our next SAC meeting will be on December 14, 2021. Also, to email questions or suggestions to add to the agenda for the upcoming SAC meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by Teri Heath.

Members present: Teri Heath, Ashley McCormick, Jean Kepner, Vanessa Baez, Kyle Cribbs, Shannon Phillips, Christina Brock, Margaret Morin (Pneuma Life), Ashley Bunnell, Keysha Dixon, Sadie Ebanyat, Carol Hardison, Mike Anderson, Christine Gurdak

Non-Members present: Jenelle Dunathan

Minutes taken: Vanessa Baez