

DURBIN CREEK SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting minutes for Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Start: 4:05 PM End: 4:47 PM

Recorder: Dara Giddings, SAC member and parent

Welcome and Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 4:05 PM

Review of November 2023 Minutes: Motion to approve: Indra Boyapally Seconded: Erika Warwick

Kindergarten Funds Request: This request is being tabled at the request of the school district.

Media Center Funds Request: Andrea O'Brien – this funds request is for an author visit that would benefit the entire school. The author's name is Jarrett Lerner. We have received a partial grant for \$792 which is the cost to cover the books. PTO has already approved a matching amount to the funds I am requesting SAC. And I have applied for another grant to cover the remainder. If we do not raise the total funds needed, then the money will go back to you. Jarrett is an author and an illustrator, and I have done a teacher workshop with him that is very interactive, so for our younger classes I am proposing the workshop model, and the 4th and 5th graders would be a special session on A Work in Progress plus the kids who are in our book club would get to have lunch with him and he would do a signing. The other day I was texting with him, and he sent them a personalized video about reading his book during the book club.

Current total is \$34,339.46 is currently available.

Indra Boyapally: So how much will be left to raise?

Andrea: About \$1000. But it looks very good that this will go through. But I personally know this author, he has been an author on the SSYRA lists and I have a personal connection with him, this is not just an author I have picked off a list from the video. This will be on the first Friday in February. Pre -K -1; 2-3, and 4-5 will be how the sessions are divided.

Wendiny Napier: I just wanted to emphasize that he is going to speak about the Character Counts as they tie in with Literacy.

Indra Boyapally – I might have a \$400 grant that I can get through my work.

Vote: Motion: Jean Kepner Seconded: Erika Warwick Vote Approved Unanimously.

Review questions and discuss any proposed changes to last year's (two years ago) Parent and Faculty Needs Assessment Surveys: In February we will be approving any changes that we make.

These surveys are to get feedback from Faculty and Staff and another for Parents. If everyone would look over this survey and email me any feedback.

Grade Level Team Reports:

Pre-K: Tor: We have not had a lot of opportunities for families to come in this year but, there is a lot of sensory stuff planned for the kids of making snow and Oobleck with hands on learning. Kid Made ornaments and ended it with Polar Express day and wearing Pajamas and having hot chocolate. The most exciting thing is the 5th classroom.

Kindergarten: Candamio: We survived our second STAR testing, and it went much smoother than the first one. We just wrapped up doing a unit on Gingerbread stories and to compare and contrast different gingerbread stories and now we are moving into holidays around the world, and the last week of this semester will be holiday celebrations.

1st Grade: Olson: First grade has been working on main topic with supporting details, both fiction and non-fiction, in math we have been balancing equations. We have also been doing Holidays around the world, next Wednesday will be the Polar Express Café where they will practice paying for their items and have a lovely little breakfast. We also survived FAST Testing and it was much better than the first go arounds. And when we return from Winter Break, we will be going right into Non-Fiction text features and in math we will be going into expanded numbers.

2nd Grade: Kepner: Gifted testing results have already been sent home to parents for them to review the information and to let them decide if they want to move on to the next phase of testing. We also did STAR testing, and the results will be printed out and sent to parents. We had our Field Trip to MOSH today, and it was all around a great time today. We will be moving into Holidays around the world like the other grades. Ms. Hicks is back from her Maternity leave, just in time for the field trip. Currently we are focused on Context clues and Partitioning of shapes, symmetry etc.

3rd Grade: Warwick: We did Balloons over Broadway and learned about the Macy's Day Parade. Next week we will also be doing holidays around the world and Gingerbread houses. FAST testing will take place as soon as we get back from winter break.

4th Grade: Napier: Our fieldtrip will be on the 18th and 19th STEM based in school field trip where the students will be in a common area of one of the houses and will be able to dig in to play with resources to work cohesively together as a team. We are doing various activities in different classrooms; some will be doing Family Tradition presentations on how their family celebrates the winter holidays. We are currently focused on Realistic fiction, really diving into character perspectives and point of views. We will also be having FAST testing when we get back.

5th Grade: Will be wrapping up all summative and projects this week and will be doing Holiday activities next week. Progress Monitoring 2 will take place after winter break.

Resource: STEM we have been working on Code.org and hour of code. The challenge is for every student to get on and code for an hour. Next month we will be trying to use our OZO Bots. Robotics Team Competition on January 20th. They are working on a project to help with Duck Trading.

Music: Chorus performance start tomorrow and Thursday and conclude Thursday night.

Media: Literacy Week is coming up.

Principal's Report with Mrs. McCormick: Unfortunately, she could not be here but has sent a report:

Howdy SAC folks! I am so sorry I cannot be with you today! As some of you know, we have a few vacant positions right now! Dr. Hamelin has moved to Texas and Ms. Kling is out on leave until January 4th so during this time I am working to cover all their responsibilities and meetings! Simply put, I am triple booked this afternoon!

I hope you enjoy the grade level updates; this place is rocking with excitement right now! We just finished K-2 STAR testing. We will continue with 3-5 FAST in January. We are receiving great news about our performance in 3-5 from last year. Durbin remains an A rated school and preliminary scores in reading, math and science appear to be incredibly positive. We will share these soon!

We completed maintenance interviews today and will soon announce a new addition to the team. As soon as we hear who will replace Dr Hamelin in January, we will share that information with families as well.

We continue to grow here at Durbin with enrollment at 1030 students! We are currently working to open a 5th PreK classroom and hope to get that running soon after winter break!

Just a reminder we have early release on December 21st. It will run like a Wednesday early release day. That means we will have two early release days in a row, on the 20th and 21st!

We wish you all a very happy holiday season! I want to thank you all for your continued partnership and support! We simply cannot do this without our families!

Enjoy your break! We will see you next year!

Questions/Comments: None

SAC Meeting Date: No Meeting in January. Next Meeting is February 13, 2024

Adjournment: Motion: Indra Boyapally **Seconded:** Erika Warwick

Members Present:

In person: Teri Heath, Wendiny Napier, Dara Giddings, Jean Kepner, Erika Warwick, Indra Boyapally, Heather Hickerson, Jill Tor

Virtual: Ashley Bunnell, Carol Hardison, Diane Tucker, James Chen

Guests: Andrea O'Brien, Katie Candamio

Virtual: Janie Olson