

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL MEETING
EMERY PARK
AUGUST 23, 2018**

IN ATTENDANCE: Jeremy Infranca (Principal), Wendy Lo (Instructional Specialist), Nanette Thompson (Special Projects Asst.), Joni Wong (Assistant Principal), Yolanda Siegmeth (Parent), Thomas Quintana (Parent-Guest), Ignacio Mata (Parent), Christine Carter-Duong (Teacher), Cassandra Rivera (Health Office Staff), Olivia Estrada (Parent), Dr. Gloria Fernandez (Teacher), Amy Keller (Parent), Jocelyn Groseth (Teacher) - QUORUM MET

CALL TO ORDER: Yolanda Siegmeth called the meeting to order at 7:00 am and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes from the 5/3/18 SSC Meeting were reviewed. Dr. Gloria Fernandez made the motion to approve the minutes. Christine Carter Duong seconded the motion. Motion carried and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

PRINCIPALS REPORT - Jeremy Infranca

Welcome back to the school year. Last year we left off with the worst case scenario about the classes, we had planned for 5 combo classes. However about 3 weeks before school started we were offered another teacher based on our numbers increasing upward. Since we were able to add a new teacher, we added Ms. Heather Diaz as a 3rd grade teacher and were able to start the year smoothly. We have a nice balance without the distractions we went through last year. We have 4 new teachers, 5 teachers in different grade levels, so it is a year of change. This will give people new energy and opportunities that we feel great about. We have two new MDD teachers as well as a new TK teacher. We feel especially hopeful about these changes as we look at SBAC scores. Unfortunately we did not meet our expectations, we dipped in English-Language Arts and Math. It could be a number of reasons.

MR. INFRANCA TOOK MEMBERS THROUGH THE SBAC SLIDES of Overall performance in both ELA and Math.

Parent Ignacio Mata: Where did you want to be?

Principal Infranca: We were hoping for a 2% increase. We don't feel great about it, but we feel that it is an opportunity to regroup and dig in to the data. We will strategize with the grade level teams and collaborate on how to improve.

POWERFUL CHOICES: District wide, everyone is beginning a new curriculum. We are returning to "Balanced Literacy". It is a new set of pacing of study and how students look at learning. Powerful Choices is contracted with the district and will help get back on track with

Balanced Literacy. We have a new plan with teachers this year which involves “Professional Development” Days. We would like Powerful Choices to come on campus for 3 days as well as 1 ½ days of demonstration labs for the teachers to watch hands-on lessons on how Balanced Literacy works.

Parent Amy Keller: What happened when Balanced Literacy was used previously?

Dr. Gloria Fernandez: It has been a commitment in the district for a long time that we are now shifting back to. It has to be fluid across the board. Everyone needs to understand the pacing.

Wendy Lo: “Powerful Choices” has been working with the district as a whole so they have familiarity with our site and our curriculum. In addition to other initiatives, such as positive behavior support committee, the teachers have a lot going on so we hope that “Powerful Choices” will help the teachers get used to the curriculum. They are experts, but it comes with a cost which is in the provided packet. We have had meetings with them and are impressed with how they come into the classrooms to give the lessons to the students.

Parent Ignacio Mata: The district is contracted with “Powerful Choices”, but how many other options for companies of this kind are there?

Principal Infranca: I am not aware of any other companies in use. This is the main recommendation from the district.

Parent Ignacio Mata: Has staff met with them?

Christine Carter-Duong: They worked with Garfield and have been there for 3-4 years. Their main focus is the writer’s workshop. My boys have gone through it and I see improvement in their writing, so I think it is worth a go.

Parent Ignacio Mata: Were there any case studies?

I.S. Lo - It is a site specific program, based on the needs of each school.

Parent Keller: Is our need in math?

Principal Infranca: It is actually literacy based.

Parent Keller: What does Balanced Literacy mean?

Dr. Fernandez: It is going back to combining different aspects of having students go through a model where they are the writers to infuse the joy of writing in them. Also, it adds in the balance of reading.

Principal Infranca: This is not necessarily a long term partnership, but it is such a profound recommendation from the district.

Ms. Lo showed the committee the cost sheet for review and approval.

Parent Mata: How does the cost breakdown work?

Principal Infranca - It means that the full day is \$5,300 for the total services, including three PD days, as well as 2 days with lab.

Parent MATA: What was the school district average?

Infranca - We outperformed certain schools with similar demographics, but we will get back to you with the exact percentage.

MATA: What will the school do different?

Infranca: We have already started a new plan. We have new grade level teams, such as 8th grade. It boils down to placing people together who will work well together strategically. We want to change up the teams a bit. Also we want to do a focus walk before first trimester to focus on math. We need to face challenges together and look at how our kids are doing and ask for help if we need it. The district offers wonderful training opportunities.

Teacher Carter-Duong: We have District Instructional Specialists who focuses on math, so we can voluntarily get extra training, so we (8th grade teachers) spent 2 hours after school getting extra training. We were trained on growth mindset and working with the kids. Our kids are afraid to fail so they don't try. We want to change that first. District and administrators are encouraging the extra training.

DISCUSSION ENSUED about lessons, growth mindset, etc.

Wendy Lo took members through the preliminary budget as well as proposed expenditures. Ms. Lo share that we are in need for a new iPad cart which we might need to consider.

MATA - what makes them outdated?

Ms. Lo: They can't even be updated with new software. The new iPads will be a large cost. They do not offer the HP android tablets anymore which would have been cheaper. The baseline budget could change, sometimes we get an updated budget, but this is what we received in August from the district.

MATA: Who uses the iPads? Why would we need new ones?

Ms. Lo: Robotics uses it, intervention teachers use it for K-2 iRead program.

8th grade teachers used to use it. I suggest We survey the staff to get consensus as well.

I believe more teachers would use the iPad cart if it had the updates.

Infranca: How many iPads are in a cart?

Ms. Lo: The cart can accommodate 40 devices.

MATA: Can we get a breakdown of what each grade levels use, Chromebooks vs. iPads?

Carter-Duong: We have all the same schedules so only one class can use the Chromecart, but it is used for research, google classroom, etc. We need several carts as 6-8th schedules are aligned and 4 teachers are sharing each cart.

MATA: It is good to know how the carts are being utilized.

Dr. Fernandez - Chromebooks are used for Acellus which is on online skills recovery program for ELA or math. Downside of Chromebooks is students cannot print from the Chromebooks.

Discussion ensued about how the carts are used.

Parent Siegmeth: Are we going to vote on the budget today?

I.S. Lo asked if there's a motion to approve Powerful Choices consultants for \$5,500?

Parent Seigmeth also asked for a motion to approve the budget and consultant cost. Parent Amy Keller motioned, Parent Olivia Estrada seconded. Motion to approve the budget was passed.

PARENT COMMITTEE REPORTS: none at this time

MEMBER EXPIRATIONS:

Ms. Lo reminded members about some of their upcoming term expirations. We will put out fliers and have our official nominations and elections.

Parent Seigmeth: If we don't get onto the board, we are just guests?

I.S. Lo: Yes. You can attend the meeting, but you can not vote.

MATA: The meetings listed are monthly. Can calls listing when the meetings are be made? More outreach, especially to new parents.

I.S. Lo stated that the WILLIAMS ACT and UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES are attached for your reference, with a copy of this in your packet. This is sent home yearly.

ELAC RECOMMENDATIONS:

There are no recommendations at this point.

PARENT WORKSHOPS:

You also see that there is a drug awareness parent workshop tonight at SGHS. There is also a 10 week Parent Project workshops available to you. This information was also sent home via "connect ed".

We would like to continue the workshop idea. What are the groups thoughts on workshops? We should we have a first workshop, possibly about power school and how to access middle school grades online. Then ask what other topics the parents are interested in for the next workshop.

Principal Infranca: Just let us know what time you would like to have an event and we will support you!

DISCUSSION ensued on a date. 9/20/18 at 6:00-6:45 pm in the library with chromebooks set up for use was decided. Projects will help with fliers, etc.

Parent Quintana: If the tech needs \$18k out of the \$36K, will the other programs be ok?

I.S. Lo: Something will have to be cut this year. Possibly math enrichment? We will know when we get closer to the decisions.

DISCUSSION ensued about purchasing half a cart instead of a full cart of iPads. It was recommended to purchase a full cart so all devices are the same model with similar specs.

Parent Mata: Can we get the agenda and minutes posted online?

I.S. Lo: We will check with Dr. Reynolds, Director of Accountability and Assessment.

Parent Quintana: How did the construction from the bond measure go?

Principal Infranca: Some additional safety measures have been added. A portion of our side gate was raised up to 10 feet, the staff pedestrian gate is locked now, and we also have a full time campus security officer.

Parent Mata: When we get to voting on technology, can we get a breakdown of how all of the technology is used?

Principal Infranca: We will do our best.

Parent Yolanda Siegmeth adjourned the meeting at 8:00 am.

Minutes typed and prepared by Nanette Thompson.