



STEM School Highlands Ranch SAC Monthly Notes September 16, 2020

Meeting Date: September 16, 2020

Meeting Location: via ZOOM per Covid-19 Guidelines

Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Present:

Ishmeet Kalra , SAC Chair

Erin Gomez, Vice-Chair

Amy Winans, SAC Recorder

David Emge, DAC Rep

Tamara Emge, PTO Rep

Angela Tolar, Parent Rep

Carla Gustafson, Parent Rep

Abbi Kaplan, Secondary Rep

Kelly Reyna, Parent Rep

Dr. Karen Johnson, Dir of Curriculum and Accountability

Community Rep: TBA Possible 2 community reps. One from Lockheed Martin and one other. Maybe by next meeting have a rep

Absent: none

Guests: Kelly Fitzgerald, Zelma Roubi, Jane Kim (partial), Kimberly Lander, Marie

Meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Ishmeet

Quorum determined.

Recite Mission and Vision Statements

Introductions

Adoption of ByLaws – accepted

Motion 20/21 year. Erin Gomez moves to adopt by laws, 2nd, motion passes by majority

Minutes from May 2020 approved Kelly moved to approve and Erin seconded. All approved except for Ishmeet who abstained

Teacher Report:

ES report by : Looking for ES rep. None have come forward to volunteer

Secondary report by Abbi Kaplan.

Staff Feedback committee – shared with admin. Top positives. Students are excited to be

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back in school. Most are engaging regularly. Teachers happy to be teaching, Colleagues helping each other great attitude. Admin and parents are mostly supportive

Some cons. Some parents are disappointed about what can be provided academically
Teachers want more time and fewer additional responsibility to prepare for lessons
fear of burn out and therefor loss of staff

Concerns about stability of admin team with 2 leaving

Fear of being evaluated on current circumstances

Fear of admin positions of not being filled.

Teachers concerned about how to follow covid guidelines. Some want a virtual day after a covid case

DCSD not recommending a virtual day once a case is found to do a deep cleaning

Stress feeling is pretty high. Admin reiterating they are doing they best they can (the teachers are) and keep it up

Issue of kids being marked absent due to zoom issues. This is a state and DCSD thing and have changed how they mark kids present. More info coming forth.

Possibly go to board and see what next step is

DAC Report:

David Emge gave a report on DAC.

They have a lot of info on road to return website. Parents can get resources and help on the site.

Challenges for testing since it's been stalled since Covid. No results from standardized tests so difficult to come up with objective goals. Meanwhile schools still have to come up with unified goals. Local test results being used.

Biggest news. Superintendent Dr. Tucker has resigned. Corey Wise and Matt Reynolds sharing leadership.

PTO Report:

Given by Tamara Emge.

Yesterday was joint SAC/PTO.

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Looking at a parent liaison for PTO. Looking at 4x a year for that person to participate . If they do this, they will give 100.00 to the classroom of their choice

Looking at PTO offering similar incentive for SAC parent liaisons as well, and PTO agreed.

Voted in a new member. Member at Large

Talked about how PTO is going to have to adjust

Started a new committee of diversity in association with SAC

To clarify. They want 4 parents from a specific classroom in either or PTO or SAC. If they do, \$100 to the parents choice of classroom

BOD Report:

Given by Ish and Tamara

September 1, 2020

Nicole Smith - interim chair, Passing it over to Rudy Lukez

Roy Martinez

Nicole Smith Treasurer

Looking to fill parent positions and a community member

They talked about Transition plan for admin

Safety Committee

By Tamara Emge

Had question about HVAC for the school. Got some info, talked to HVAC people.

Robert Hoornstra spoke about what they have done in prep for Covid.

Tamara concerned there is not enough transparency for where the funds for Covid have gone

Says others have asked the same question

Erin wants a formal recommendation to the Board for financial transparency in more detail,.

SAC is part of the advisement of where money goes

Ish will follow up

Community Report

Given by – no community member

Director Report:

Reported on by Dr. Karen Johnson.

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On admin turnover – had spent time this summer re-evaluating the roles. Then had 2 leave, Dr. Johnson already does the UIP, Dr. Weyman just review and submit so it makes sense for Dr. Johnson to add that to her responsibilities

We have now 3 Assistant Directors. For High School – Dan Hoffman, Middle School – Anna MagleHaberek and Elementary School – LynAnn Kovalesky

Over the summer they spent much time and money on the RTU (Rooftop unit) and painting etc.

Hired additional custodial staff

Thermometers for temperature check were some of the things money was spent on

They had talked about what does it look like 100% virtual, 100% in person, hybrid. Dr. Johnson worked with a team on what those three scenarios look like. Worked over the summer working with teachers on making them effective

Did not want to follow what some other districts were doing in hiring an online platform and not give choices

Did hire a few positions over the summer. All that data is in the Oct Board meeting

Working on getting ES in person 100% but possibly keeping Fridays all virtual

Upcoming things Presenting data on teacher retention, achievement data,

Students using Iready for LA and Math

Staff feedback team will be sharing info

parent and student feedback info

Last Feb hired a Dean. That person has relocated out of state. We are moving forward hiring a dean for K-8.

Redesigning the curricular committee. No board member who can lead that. Dr. Johnson will be doing that. Keeping in mind all students of diversity. Looking at course proposals. First meeting in the next few weeks.

Discussion on Iready and standardized testing and how it works with virtual learning.

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Survey from parents last spring had more participation
Had a student survey last spring. Compare and contrast the data from both surveys.
Total responses was 27.4%
went over the data at a high level

New Business:

Summarize SAC Duties
Summarize SAC Protocols
Introduce Agenda Items for 2020-2021 (no particular order)
UIP – Dr. J
Parent Survey Angela and Ish
Teacher Retention (Erin is the lead on that)
Diversity Inclusion and Equity (Ish taking the lead and joint PTO SAC committee)
Budget David
Safety (Carla and Tamara taking the lead)
Student Involvement (aka Student rep)

OPEN FORUM

Kelly Fitzgerald had a question but first
Big thank you to secondary teachers (has a 6 and 7th) grader
Question about if secondary will be offered 4x a week option.
Dr. J said they are moving forward with looking at matrix for secondary
Tri County gives clear guidance on hybrid or in person
We are sticking with DCSD for guidance
no exact timeline but early learners first. As we ensure their safety.

THEN explore MS and HS. No timeline, but it's in the works.

Zelma Roubi- no questions

Next SAC Meeting October 21, 2020 will be posted on the All School Calendar
Adjourned 8:07pm

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Motion for adjournment at 8:07 by Erin second by Tamara.

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