



STEM School Highlands Ranch SAC Monthly Notes October 23, 2019

Meeting Date: October 23, 2019

Meeting Location: STEM School: HS Commons

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Present:

Kelly Reyna, SAC Chair

Anne Marie Blackburn, SAC Vice Chair

Amy Winans, SAC Recorder

Tom Wendling DAC Rep

Erin Gomez, Parent Rep

Dr. Karen Johnson, Dir of Curriculum and Accountability

Patrick Callahan, ES Teacher Rep

Ishmeet Kalra, Parent Rep

Absent: Abbi Kaplan Secondary Rep, Aleza Bautista PTO Rep, Angela Tolar Parent Rep

Community Rep: Liz Davis

Guests: Susanna Spear, Marna Kebel, Lauren Pickett, Tamara Emge, David Emge, Kimberly Lander, Holly Shapiro, Karyn Weiffenback

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 by Kelly Reyna

Introductions

Quorum determined

Moved to approve minutes by Kelly, 2nd by Erin

Tom abstains

Principal Report:

Reported on by Dr. Karen Johnson.

Talked about Operations Survey Results.

Need a parent survey. Possible for a fall and spring survey??

Talked about the SPF (School Performance Framework). There is a 1 year and a 3 year.

Talked about the UIP (Unified Improvement Plan) and how it's accessible to anyone on the CDE site.

AMB suggested a special ed person (from STEM) come talk maybe in Dec. about what/how they do re: UIP

Teacher Report:

ES report by Patrick Callahan

Got lots of updates



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2 full school assemblies (k-5) this year so far

school wide positive (PBIS) behavior system

kids get "caught" doing positive behavior to get tickets to exchange for bling

Student council up and running

Mrs. Bench running that.

Movie night Nov 15

Spirit week next week (week of Halloween)

Expectations of shared spaces (hallway, cafe, driveline etc)

Fun Run today (Oct 23, 2019)

Spoke about field trips the kids have been taking in ES

AMB asked how morale is for the teachers in ES. Callahan said very young staff. They are making it work, they are energized and positive but it is draining. Taking lots of effort

HS report by Abbi Kaplan. Abbi was absent so no report

DAC Report:

Tom Wendling gave a report on DAC. Oct 8 was last meeting. Major points from the meeting are:

Wendy Vogel - was her last DAC meeting. She was thanked for her service

Matt Reynolds - talked about his training sessions in September

The DAC wants a secondary teacher to be on the DAC

Tabled Topics: try to engage parents who are there. What can you do to increase SAC attendance?

S/w Parker Core Knowledge who does parent surveys. STEM required under new contract to have one submitted by Feb 1. Tom going to get a copy of one of their surveys. They send them out monthly

Tom ok'd to mention 250k to STEM from the safety grant program for a new safety system.

No contract signed yet though.

PTO Report:

Given by Kelly because Aleza was absent. Aleza is new co-president. Still have positions open. All financials are not updated yet on website. Will be done quarterly

Dr. Johnson thanked PTO for all the teacher stuff that has been given to the lounges etc for the teachers.



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BOD Report:

Given by Kelly: AP Computer Science - someone presented a driveline app, feasible that this could work,

Trunk or Treat is Tuesday (Oct 29)

Teacher retention talked about and answered many questions

LeAnn's presentation: Collective efficacy how everybody can get together and Coaching aspect the teachers participate in. Get leadership experience, new teachers get support.

Incentives for Coaches is \$, time and they don't want to leave their classrooms.

Stephanie Mandrala coaches the coaches

Some of the teacher surveys said the parents are not supportive of the teachers and a little aggressive towards the teachers.

Show kindness and be a leader in showing how to act.

Suggestion that maybe in the newsletter we address how to email or act towards the teachers.

Community Member Update:

Liz Davis couldn't be here and had nothing to add

Updates and Unfinished Business:

Dr. Johnson

Update on door locks...they were all changed over break.

Angela and Ish DC Leadership Program – quite a few STEM parents on committee (8) part of strategic planning for DC. Learned about history of DC schools and size. How it's governed. Superintendent spoke the whole time. Talked about Charter School Act. Danny is head of CHOICE for DCSD. Talked about DCSD goals.

Spent a lot of time answering questions. This meets monthly on Fridays from 9-12pm

Next one is on school safety

SAC Meeting progress updates talked about

SAC webpage update – addressed concerns from last meeting about the webpage. Web page is updated and more in progress. Can access from ABOUT or PARENTS

Suggested current minutes on homepage and maybe have that months agenda and minutes next to each other. For example: click on 9/18/19 and get agenda AND minutes
Parents don't want to wait a month or more for last SAC meeting minutes.



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BOD wants a presentation from SAC so the minutes need to be finished earlier than the next SAC meeting,

Further discussion about the minutes and when/how to approve them

Discussion about how we can teach parents how to have etiquette when addressing teachers.

Staff feedback team has gotten more survey results which is great.

Grievance presented by parent last time was addressed. No further questions.

Question about if this has been presented to the parent and the answer is not yet, however he is no longer a STEM parent

Idea of maybe having a group photo for SAC so parents can "see" who is on SAC

Dr. J mentioned maybe putting parent survey results on the SAC page

Motion from 8/21/19 – Speaking topics for Admin to present (Weyman, Hoornstra, Eucker).
Invite them to speak on certain topics ie Safety, Financial etc

New Business:

Budget – Preliminary discussions in prep for NOV SAC mtg

Proposed SAC member to compose a summary of BOD and SAC follow through

Recycling program with the school?

Susanna spoke about recycling program she wants to help start up recycling program at STEM. Tried to start a committee, but hasn't gone far. There is nothing in place for recycling. She's thinking like the MS or HS cafeteria...maybe signage or somehow let the kids know but Susanna doesn't know who to go to or talk to.

Dr. J said maybe some more parent involvement?

Tabled and maybe we can come up with some ideas to help

OPEN FORUM

Tamara had a public comment. She is a body language teacher. She has been in the school for several classes to teach handshakes, body language and establishing relationships. A teacher felt a body language class might be helpful. So the question is, can this continue?

Teachers requesting and kids loved it. Positive feedback from kids and teachers.

Possible team building class?