

Minutes of Site Council
Sycamore Elementary School
November 21, 2013

Present: Ken Graff (KG), Principal (non-voting member)
Erica Irby (EI), Assistant to the Principal (non-voting member)
Mary Fosdick (MF), member - President
Melanie Stewart (MS), member
Sarah Irvin (SI), member
Mike Quezada (MQ), member

1. **Call to Order** - Mary Fosdick called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance at 4:37 p.m.
 - b. Approval of Minutes - Sarah Irvin moved to approve the minutes, MQ seconded the motion.
 - c. Reports
 - a. Administrative/Member Reports
 - a. The week after Thanksgiving students will take their second benchmark of the year. This is during the week of December 2-6th.
 - b. This is the time of the year that we also ramp up Tax-Credit donations. Club advisors are asked to create a half-flyer to give to parents.
 - c. There are a lot of school events happening right now, Student Council is wrapping up their canned food drive. They have already exceeded their goal. The teachers will be doing a talent show the Thursday before the holiday break.
 - d. PTA earned a little over \$12,000 for the Read-a-Thon. Considering doing a second fund raiser.
 - e. Pancake Breakfast is December 7th.
 - f. Choir, Band, and Strings will have their holiday performance.
 - g. First Grade Music performance is December 12, 2013.
 - h. Kindergarten Performance will be December 17, 2013.
 - d. Call to the Public
 - e. Recognitions

- a. KG - Student Council - *Ashley Condley & Lauren Prater* for organizing a very successful canned food drive. The donations are going to be going to the community.
- b. KG - *Rachel Tankersley* - For her outstanding work with the SUMS program and organizing a shoe drive.
- c. KG - *Hannah Adame & Nicki Holewinski* for their work in tracking immunizations and keeping parents in the loop during the cases of Pertussis at Sycamore. They also did a great job talking with students and parents graciously.
- d. KG - *Georgia Johnson & Britt Dekoschak* for helping, teaching, and organizing lessons for students who were being housed at the church.
- e. EI - *Colleen Elkins & Wes Riggs* for graciously being available to extend their hours to allow our library to be open for our students and parents.
- f. MF - Recognizing the *library staff, Susie Bell, Rachel Tankersley* for being great hosts for her lego robotics clubs.

2. **Consent Agenda**

3. **Old Business**

a. **2013 - 2014 Enrollment Update**

- a. Our numbers are staying pretty consistent. We are at 957 students.

b. **Certified/Classified Staff Update**

- a. We have one staff member who is on maternity leave. Alex Reene is on maternity leave. Melissa Wilson is currently being her long-term sub. She was a student teacher at Sycamore. We hired Mrs. Dekoschak as a special needs parapro, however with the situation she is currently teaching students at the church.

c. **Facilities Update**

- a. We had an incident of vandalism around Sycamore. It happened one morning, with a crashed in window. They fixed it that day, and then it happened again overnight. Authorities were contacted and they are working on the situation.
- b. There have been discussions about getting cameras installed that would take pictures based on movement.

- c. Parking lot continues to run smoothly. The new signage is up in the parking lot.
- d. Administration is working with companies to get a bid from a company about an inclusive playground. We will most likely move forward with the panels. The whole playground will cost around \$15,000. If we tried to revamp the whole playground it would take a lot of money to raise that type of money.
- e. At the PTA meeting it was recommended by asking for business donations to pay for certain portions of the playground.
- f. Today maintenance replaced one of the beams on the bridge, and will replace a platform over the December break.

4. New Business

a. Proposed Boundary Change

- a. MF discussed the possibility about having a joint Site Council meeting with CFMS regarding the proposed boundary change.
- b. There hasn't been anymore movement about this since the last meeting.
- c. The district is currently working on drafting a letter to parents before we go on the holiday break.
- d. Governing board will still need to approve this.
- e. The district is working on creating three Town Hall Meetings - ours will be Thursday, January 16th at 6:30 p.m.
 - a. This will allow parents to come together and talk about general topics in the community.
 - b. There will also be a joint site council meeting with all schools and governing board at some point in February.
- f. The boundary change will effect new home owners in the Corona De Tucson and New Tucson area.
- g. Currently no conversations about having a public meeting about the boundary changes.

b. 2013-2014 Site Council Goals

- a. Site Council brainstormed and discussed the following goals for the 2013-2014 school year.
 - a. Site Council visibility at events - it would be a priority to make sure that at least two site council members are present at all events.

- b. Science Fair - making sure that each of our classes does a classroom project. Continue with 4th and 5th grade students doing projects.
- c. Research - Academic Fair - to promote academic growth and achievement (looking into the possibility of having an academic fair where students could showcase an interest in another subject. Ex. Report on famous mathematician, student of poetry, etc).
- d. Parent and Staff Communication Goal
- e. KG will draft up a list of the goals and send it out to the council. This will be an agenda item through out the year.

c. Pertussis

- a. We had one confirmed case on Halloween - letter went home on November 1 to parents.
- b. Over Veteran's Day weekend - two results came back positive.
- c. At that time, Pima County Health Department puts restrictions on the school.
 - a. Students that aren't immunized need to stay home for 21 days from the last confirmed student was absent from school.
 - b. If any of these kids choose to get immunized, then they need to be out for 14 days after the immunization.
 - c. Any of the students and workers in the Kindergarten class were recommended to receive preventative antibiotics.
 - d. Administration met with Superintendent to make a plan to provide educational support for those students.
 - e. With the support of Rick Huff at the Corona De Tucson Baptist Church we are able to provide support for 3-5 in the morning, and K-2 in the afternoon. There are around 22 students who are currently attending school at the church. The teacher is Britt Dekoschak. She is supported by Kathy Thitchener in the classroom.
 - f. Thanks to Georgia Johnson and the teams for also providing the materials.
 - g. The parents are being very supportive and understanding about the situation.

5. Next Meeting

- a. Thursday, January 23, 2013 - 4:30 p.m.

6. Adjournment

- a. SI moves to end the meeting. MS seconds. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.