



NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Dr. Derrick, Principal



Pathway to the Future

School Site Council Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 24th, 2020, 2:45 P.M. Zoom Conference

Present:

Andrew Derrick, Mary Helfenberger, Keiko Charif, Val Bobias, Amanda Meng, Jacquie Kramer, Nitu Singh, Prati Dayal, Parul Manglik, Mukta Goyal

Absent: none

Called the meeting to order: 2:50 pm

Roll Call: Everyone was present. (Mrs.Kramer joined later)

Approval of Agenda: No Change or No Addition to Agenda

Approval of the Last Meeting Minutes: Charif moved a motion to approve and Singh seconded. All in favor.

Public Comment: None

Unfinished Business: None

Ongoing Business: None

New Business:

1. This school year's SSC members' roles and responsibilities.
Dr. Derrick proposed to continue roles from last year. Mrs. Bobias made a motion to approve, and Mrs. Goyal seconded. All in favor. All members will continue to stay on the roles from last year. (Mrs. Kramer later also approved as she was absent at the time of voting.)
2. Overview of the role of the SSC.
Dr. Derrick shared a PDF article, "How Do SchoolSite Councils Work?"
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cb9ws0IEgGjLagH8aMBX9REYEK4cwg3/view?usp=sharing>

The principal expects that a school site council will understand the strength and weaknesses of the school. Based on that, we will design a single plan for Northwood. This plan includes academic goals and behavior issues such as suspension rate, or chronic absenteeism, and the school climate. SSC is much like the PTA, and if we have funds available, SCC will host an event like Literacy Night. However, we do not fundraise the fund.

3. Budget 2020-2021 Explained by Dr. Derrick.
As we have discussed at the previous SCC meeting, the Northwood budget went down 20 % by the district this year. (102K to 81K) The school is also required to keep 15% of the reserve fund instead of 5%, which affected this year's budget drastically.

With that being said, the Kinder IA Site Budget was reduced \$30,000 to \$22,500. This fund is added to the school budget as an additional. Library book purchase was canceled as we are in the distance learning phase. Skip Counseling service was canceled; however, Mrs. Staggie, the school site social worker, is working through Zoom, and we do not anticipate much effect on students.

One good news is that the Business Department released the reserve percentage from 15% to 7.5%, and this created another \$6,560 extra fund. The S.I. fund is still zero, and it depends on teachers' needs later on in the school year. Also, the MTSS fund was eliminated, but we may put all students on the computer asynchronized work, while teachers meet through Zoom, and we may save money if teachers need to meet the team to discuss the intervention plan.

The school Librarian/EdTech position is extremely vital than ever as we are in distance learning with technology and increased the hours as Mrs. Bobias covers the curriculum distribution and many more. During the summer, Dr. Derrick negotiated with Dream Box (5% discount) and purchased at \$7,790. Lexia reduced the price from over 10K to 95K, which includes 2 Professional Development by the Lexia staff. They will cover topics such as the Upper Grade focused Materials and Tools and Resources. The technology Replacement fund is set as 5,722.66 in preparation for purchasing extra carts (at least 24) and replacement of old Chromebook, which was transferred from other schools. The old Chromebooks are having many issues, and Mrs. Bobias anticipated as many as 175 might need to be replaced.

Regarding this Technology Replacement fund, the principal opened the discussion. Mrs. Singh proposed that we need the teachers' input and requested Dr. Derrick to bring this up at the next staff meeting. Mrs. Goyal requested the protective eyewear for students from the laptop screen, but Dr. Derrick asked the parents to purchase it at home. Mrs. Kramer brought up the necessity of a larger screen in the class when we start Hybrid Model instruction later. The PTA has a fundraising plan such as APEX, and we will generate funds in November, then we will purchase more technology. Meanwhile, we will plan technology replacement along with the district school opening plan.

4. Mrs. Kramer questioned purchasing SumDog, although it is a good incentive Math game, it is too much computer time and math apps already in place. All teachers agreed, and Dr. Derrick mentioned that some teachers had already purchased BrainPop, and he will work out with BrainPop if they would agree to reimburse them once we purchase the school license. Dr. Derrick made a motion to propose to buy Brainpop instead of Sumdog. Charif seconded, and all in favor. We unanimously approved to purchase Brainpop Immediately, rather than waiting until APEX fundraising instead of SumDog.
5. Dr. Derrick explained the district's school opening plan relating to the technology replacement fund. The district plans a "Hybrid Model" such as students in school two days and with distance learning 2days a week. In that scenario, teachers may need a larger screen in each classroom. With that in mind, we will continue the discussion about technology purchase and share at the next meeting. Dr. Derrick stated that all members feel free to email him for the next meeting agenda. He can add topics to the agenda.
6. Dr. Derrick reported how the school is doing in general. Currently, the attendance rate is as high as 99%. Teachers and parents are working on accountability. Also, in terms of instruction, the teachers provide more rigorous robust instruction than the last spring. SBAC State Test looks like it will be postponed/canceled as for now. The district has not mentioned it yet. Dr. Derrick shared a "Field Day" plan as a celebration when all students return to school.

Mrs. Manglik questioned if the 5th-grade students can attend Walden West Science Camp late spring. Tentatively the district covers the cost, and the Walden West will provide the virtual Science Camp at this moment.

Mrs. Kramer is in the Science Camp Committee, and she will explore if there is such an option of the real Science Camp near the end of the school year. In some ideas, parents may drive the small group students up to outdoor learning experiences.

Next meeting Date: It is not decided yet, but it will be Thursday 2:45 P.m. through Zoom in October.

Meeting adjourned: 3:45 pm

Minutes submitted by: Keiko Charif

Addendum:

On September 28th, Dr. Derrick proposed the school safety plan revision (Safe Physical Climate Goal and Safe Social Climate goal on Page 19-21) to the council members. All voted approved unanimously on September 29, at 3:52 P.M.