

OFFICIAL MINUTES
Edith Bowen Laboratory School
School Community Council
Monday, November 9, 2015

SCC Members

Present:

Emma Maughan

Sarah Huff

Juliet Tietjen

Julie Moeller

Laura Reina

Kim Hendricks

Eric Newell

Lorinda Mortensen

Absent:

Dan Johnson

Gaylene Merrill

Adam Winger

Shelly Gonzales

AGENDA:

1. Call to order: 8:20 AM

Action: Motion to approve October SCC minutes:

Motion: Juliet Tietjen

Second: Sarah Huff

Unanimous in affirmative

Mastery Based Report Cards:

Laura passed out a blank report card form to the council for feedback. Emma asked the question as to why do we choose to have assessment data with goals instead of having the mastery based information? Laura indicated so that we can give parents a chance to discuss how assessments are going. Assessment data is not related to mastery.

Emma suggested that if mastery based report cards do not get a conversation, it becomes less important and it makes the assessment information more important because it is the focus. Juliet asked why have the assessment data conversation when she is told that it “doesn’t matter” and the teachers know her children. So why take the time on the assessment piece? She would rather focus on what is happening in the classroom. Laura shared that Fall SEPs are focused on goal setting. Our teacher concerns are that SEPs were focused on the report cards rather than the whole child.

Laura asked the SCC member what they thought the focus of SEPs should be.

Emma suggested that teachers could speak to how children are doing by that time in the year. Whole child, grades and behavior. There are clear avenues of child’s growth at that time in the year and they are able to set goals.

Kim shared that she really appreciates the new format for SEPs being student led.

Sarah shared that she thinks that it is difficult to set goals with little kids, but liked having a personal goal to set. She would like to see how her children are doing with curriculum as well. Juliet shared she is good for goal setting and it was a great set up, but time with teacher wasn’t used as well. She would like to know where the kids need to improve academically. She also liked the student-led format.

Laura shared that these goals were set for Leader in Me goal to think of students outside of just the classroom.

Lorinda indicated that she would be nice to know where the students’ grades are along with the goals, Leader in Me, assessments, etc.

Emma shared that her major concern is that the focus is skewed to assessments and the report card information gets lost. Rather have the test scores with explanations sent home.

Laura shared that the next SEP’s are only 2 weeks before report cards are sent home. Perhaps teachers just have report cards ready at that time and can include the mid-year assessments with the paperwork.

Laura indicated that mastery based report cards were implemented last year because Dan realized the many different forms did not present the school as unified. Teachers were a little frazzled with the process last year, and did some work on them this past summer so they have more buy-in this year. The new report card should present a picture of the whole child.

Sarah asked if we are stuck in the needing to “exceed” in everything because it is a difficult transition to make. She would really like to see 30 minute SEP’s.

Laura stated that meeting expectations is our goal, not exceeding.

Kim indicated that she did not like having multiple parents in the room because everyone can hear the conversations about the other students.

Sarah suggested that parents schedule a time with the teacher, but invite them to come spend time with their child in the classroom for the student-led piece.

Lorinda shared she would like to have one on one time with the teachers and a real SEP at the end of the school year.

Emma indicated that she would like specific information on how to work with child over the summer.

Sarah shared that the end of year SEP/celebration was chaotic and varied too greatly from teacher to teacher.

Webpage Status:

Eric Newell is working with Jason Barnett but this website but it is very complex. As of this Friday, he will start building pages and will start contacting different groups to see if anyone has ideas about what needs to be added or simplified. He is starting on the backend and then moving to the homepage. He will start with SCC because these meetings need to be posted to the website. He is also working with FaceBook and social media aspects to improve communication with parents and community. We really want to highlight what the school is about and the good things that we are doing here.

Sarah shared that she really appreciates seeing what is happening at the school, what other classes are doing. So great for her 5th grader at TSS and this gets younger kids excited.

Eric asked how many parents are we reaching and if we can get more through a link on our EBLS website. Maybe an Instagram and other social media sites for parents who are not on Facebook.

Emma indicated that maybe a blog or something for people who do not use social media.

Juliet stated that just links to albums on the website so that we do not create more work.

Sarah inquired to see if calendars could be imbed to the webpage like the lunch calendar, field trips, assemblies, etc. so that they are all on one calendar.

Laura indicated that all teachers have calendars and these can be shared.

Emma stated that one of the SIP goals is to improve communication with parents and asked for suggestion on how to do that?

Kim stated that maybe a quarterly newsletter.

Emma inquired as to what do parents really want to know? By state law we are required to post our minutes and hold an open meeting. Maybe we need to have a member of the SCC address parents at back to school night about what SCC does and when.

Sarah shared it would be an improvement to post our minutes on the website.

Juliet suggested that we add a contact person for parents to be able to communicate concerns or suggestions to.

Charter Review:

Emma asked if we could amend charter based on the availability of space instead of banking on a calendar year. We need to create a timeline, and who is necessary to get the ball rolling, ensure transparency, etc. for making amendments.

Eric N asked if 6th grade need to be here. Could we collaborate with another group and have the 6th grade elsewhere until the building is ready?

Emma asked if Dan could speak with new Logan Superintendent about 6th grade at EBLs.

Juliet stated that there are a lot of parent concern over Cache's grade level change.

Do we Information from the state on what needs to be done to make amendments?

Other items moved to the next month.

Adjourn 9:30 AM