

School Advisory Council (SAC) Minutes

Fellsmere Elementary School

3:45p.m., September 15, 2020

Location: School Cafeteria

Mr. Echeverria began to introduce SAC and is translating each section into Spanish. He Introduced the agenda and thanked everyone for coming.

Old Business –

- Approve old minutes - We need to get the old minutes and will approve them next time since we left early in March.

New Business –

- Approve location of SAC meetings
Mr. Echeverria said he wanted to have the meetings in the cafeteria. We were not sure if it would work with extended day in the cafeteria as well. The kids are behaving and eating. You can bring your kids and we will have more snacks next time to keep the kids engaged.
This is the area we will be having SAC meetings from now on.
- Approve SAC dates
October 20th, November 17th, January 19th, February 16th, March 16th, April 20th, and May 18th.
- Approve new Chair

Mr. Echeverria introduced me as a former first grade teacher current third grade teacher as the new SAC chair. He informed everyone that we are

shifting people around to give others the opportunity to fill rolls around the school. The group approved me (Hannah Bachleda) as the new chair.

- Judy Marsiglia overview of SAC

Mr. Echeverria introduced Marsiglia's roll in the school. He asked her to give a quick overview of SAC.

Marsiglia – what is sack? (school advisory council) and informed everyone what sack is and that the purpose is to assist in the preparation and evaluating the SIP and assist the principal with the budget. It's basically driving the working plan of the school year. You help make choices with how funds are spent to meet the school's plan. Asked if there were any questions about it. It's basically the parent's input. (Mr. Echeverria translated)

- SIP (School Improvement Plan)

Alderton sharing SIP in English and Mr. Echeverria in Spanish. We have four action steps.

The first action step is the use of formative assessments and learning targets. The process of using targets for what needs to be learned that day from a portion of the standard and assessed on it to reteach if needed.

Next is the implementation of the dual language program we began in kindergarten. (the dual language program was explained) Dual language is the theme the choice that we are giving parents when they come to our school to pick in kindergarten this year. The kids will be able to read, write, and speak in two language. You will be able to do those things by the time you leave here will be a tremendous skill and they will always remember they started in Kindergarten. They will keep moving it up to fifth grade year by year. We will be the only school in the district that has taken this innovative approach to instruction.

The third goal based on our data from state assessments, was improving science instruction from Kinder to fifth grade. IN fifth grade they

have the assessment for science. That can't be the only grade where they get good science instruction. We know it needs to be kinder to fifth grade.

The next one is attendance and how we can continue to support attendance during and after the pandemic. The attendance goal is for the kids to be here. Be sure they are in school. If they aren't here, they aren't learning. At the end of the day, when everything hopefully gets better, if we don't have this partnership and these kids in school, they don't learn. We applaud the parents who are keeping their kids home who are experiencing symptoms but we appreciate those who are getting supplies and materials to work at home while waiting for test results or for symptoms to pass.

- Finalize school culture and climate

Our overview for our culture and climate. It hasn't been easy because we have three options. Some parents chose what they thought they wanted and when it starts it wasn't as easy as they thought it was. We made some changes early when we started because there was room to make changes. Some parents are still asking today to change options. It's all over the place. We can't because it loses the impact of the social distancing. Teachers are trying to get into a rhythm of what we are doing. WE need to give teachers and students the place to get in the rhythm and familiar with what they are doing with being away from so long. We thank parents who keep calling and are involved and share their experiences such as internet and computer issues. IN all that craziness there are positives going on in the school. There are teachers teaching, students learning, etc. There are so many pulls and pushes and our teachers are working on. It's not easy but it's what we are doing.

Open Forum –

Alderton - Any questions or clarifications needed for those four points for our School Improvement Plan?

Mrs. Davis said the dual language was clarified for her with it being learning to read and write with native Spanish speakers. Mr. Echeverria said there are some schools that start in Pre-K. That could be an option in the future.

Mr. Echeverria asked for any further questions. No questions were raised.

He continued to say as we go through future meetings, there will be more proposals and budget related things to vote on. We won't be voting on what the four points are for the SIP. Those are set already.

A parent shared that she thinks the school is doing a good job. Mr. Echeverria said he feels a lot of parents are being very supportive of the school.

A parent asked about the science. "they don't do much science until fifth grade?" Alderton said the standards have always been in place but we haven't spent enough time on it. The assessments for ELA and math become the primary focus and we have learned the hard way that that isn't best practice. The shift is that we have a daily plan with a strong focus on spending enough time on science standards so they are prepared for it. Mr. E said we will be monitoring it to make sure it is being done. Alderton – change how we do it. ENGAGE method will be put into place. Putting the knowledge back in the hands of the students and engagement with the curriculum and focusing on how we're spending that time.

Next meeting will be October 20th, same time, same place.

We will call the others we called to see if they will come.

If you can bring somebody bring them. We want Black, Hispanic, and white people to be represented in these meetings. All of us make FES who we are!

3:459.m., September 15, 2020

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