

Shearn's SDMC
September 8, 2015

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 - Any errors let us know right away. There are lots of changes the last few days
- Support and Volunteers
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 - Head Start
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 - Ms. Wilson- Superintendent Board
 - Mr. Maclain- PTA President
- Other business

Shearn SDMC Minutes
September 8, 2015

Members Present

Bill Buck – Principal
Pablo Iriondo – School Based Professional
Canthy Luna – Classroom Teacher
Sandra Pollock – Classroom Teacher
Eric Whitten – Classroom Teacher
Bob Chenoweth – Mission Southwest
Ana Toveras – Head Start
Tasha Wilson – Parent

Absent:

Kathleen Garson-School Based Professional
Tracey Hall- Classroom Teacher

Attendance

There were 26 absences when classes resumed September 8 after the Labor Day holiday. Half the absences came from Pre-K and Kindergarten. Teachers need to communicate with parents the importance of coming back when school begins and not extending long weekends.

Incentives include free dress on Wednesdays for classes with 100% attendance the entire week and grade level funds available for rewards such as ice cream etc. Students are allowed three written excused notes and three doctors' excused notes before a meeting is required with Mr. Buck or Ms. Walker. Students who miss an excess of days can be withdrawn.

Academics

Lesson planning - Lesson plans should match the objective, which should match what's being taught in class. Objectives must align with teaching. Mr. Jimenez discussed objectives in PLC and is here for more support if needed.

Science - Science teachers will schedule a meeting (date TBD) to align lesson plans and for Mr. Iriondo to see what supports teachers need.

Math – ST Math is up and running. Mr. Jimenez will meet with the technology classes. The curriculum will be planned backwards to prepare for Snapshots.

Dual Language – Pre-K, Kinder, and 1st will all meet in the cafeteria for Open House to discuss Dual Language before separating to their individual rooms.

Testing

Eight students are taking the first round of GT testing. Students can be recommended by parents or teachers.

Finance

Activity Funds - Beginning account balances were presented. The school budget is funded by taxes and cannot be used for incentives, but activity funds can.

Enrollment/School Budget – Enrollment is currently at 650. If enrollment drops, positions may have to be cut, including ancillaries, administration, and support.

Facility Concerns

No concerns. The temporary buildings are still being prepared.

Open House

Everyone will meet in the cafeteria for the data meeting before being dismissed to the classrooms.

Staffing

Teacher Assistants – A TA backed out and we need to fill the position as it is being paid for regardless of whether it's filled. In hiring it is preferred that we hire someone who wants to become a teacher.

Professional Development

We no longer have a TDS, so teachers will go to training off campus either weekdays by requesting a sub or on Saturdays for compensation.

Calendar

Inform the administration about any errors or changes to the calendar right away. The calendar also goes to parents so it's imperative that it is accurate.

Support and Volunteers

Mr. Chenoweth reported on Mission Southwest, Willow Meadows, and Houston Chinese Church. There has been some turnover and we are waiting for confirmation of involvement.

Head Start

Head Start is at capacity with 18 students in each class, 36 altogether. They had a parent meeting on September 1 at 2:00 that ran over and are considering starting earlier next time. The next meeting is September 24. Loves Notes is a program to improve communication and will be September 17 at 1:45. They will also be at Open House.

Parents

Parents expressed concern that they didn't get much feedback about the prepackaged school supplies. Feedback included some low quality products such as pencil sharpeners.

Parents were also unhappy with dismissal at the start of school but have seen the improvements. Since Friday is Spirit Day and teachers are allowed to wear shirts supporting either Shearn or a university, they would like to extend the dress to students as well. (Mr. Buck reminded teachers that Friday is in fact Spirit Day, not Casual Day, and only university or school shirts are allowed)

with jeans.) Mr. Buck contended that free dress is better used as an incentive for perfect attendance, and by allowing it on Fridays makes it less of a desirable reward. He also said the cost of the shirts is an issue since not all students could afford them, unless the PTA would provide shirts for all the students. It was also clarified that the new school shirt color is specifically Navy blue, not other shades such as royal or powder.