



River Oaks Elementary SDMC Minutes

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

(To be approved at the next SDMC meeting)

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. Attendance was as follows:

Name of SDMC Member	Position (Add Date Term expires)
Casey Chamness	Business Member (2021)
Jennifer Hertz	Kinder Classroom Teacher (2020)
Dominique Notton	1 st Classroom Teacher (2021)
Kate Behelfer	2 nd Classroom Teacher (2021)
Cecilia Baylon	3 rd Classroom Teacher (2020)
Patty Like	4 th Classroom Teacher (2021)
Debbie McLaughlin	5 th Classroom Teacher (2021)
Diane Sheehan	Non-Instructional Staff (2021)
Nina Godiwalla	Parent (2020) Magnet
Catherine Matthews	Parent (2021) Magnet
Danny David	Parent (2021) Zoned
Michelle Lewis	Parent (2020) Zoned
Keri Fovargue	School-Based Staff (Head of School)
Margo White	Special Education School-Based Staff (2021)
Adriana Myers	School-Based Staff (2021)

Dr. Fovargue welcomed the committee to the first quarterly meeting, and introductions were made. Dr. Fovargue shared a successful start of the school year, and she asked Ms. Hertz to explain the new inquiry lab for kindergarten. Dr. Fovargue also explained The Learning Commons space (formerly referred to as the library). She demonstrated the new Clever Touch and introduced the new Zspace computers purchased by the PTO. The students have had a very positive reaction to the LSTEAM (Library, Science, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) experience.

Next, the May 2019 minutes were reviewed. Ms. Sheehan made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. David seconded the motion. Therefore, the minutes from May 15, 2019 were reviewed and approved unanimously.

After the minutes were approved, Dr. Fovargue referred to the minutes and budget cuts from last year. She shared an organizational chart to show how the leadership responsibilities were being addressed with fewer staff on the campus. She stated all leadership team members taught students at least for half of the day. Lead teachers and team leaders as well as others who assist with responsibilities after school are compensated for their time.

A parent asked if PTO could pay for salaried positions, and Dr. Fovargue shared the process for accepting donations along with the HISD Board Trustees approval for certain budget amounts. At this time, the PTO has not opted to pursue the route. Dr. Fovargue felt the team approach was working, and a dedicated associate teacher reported to work daily to assist those leaders in the classroom (when they needed to attend mandatory district meetings). These teachers also serve as the IB Coordinator, Dyslexia Interventionist, Magnet Coordinator and Literacy Coach.

Additional school updates shared included the new copiers that will be here in October. The lease bill for copiers is approximately \$10,000 and this allotment is paid out of ROE's general fund budget. When asked if PTO could pay for copiers, Dr. Fovargue shared the process and the PTO's response from last year. Parents also inquired about teacher wish lists, and they wanted to know how they could continue to get a copy of those. STAAR scores, accountability and the impact attendance had on student funding last year were also mentioned. Dr. Fovargue stated ROE lost approximately \$65,000 with a 97.4% attendance rate. She stated she would continue to encourage parents not to take vacations during the school year as this is the biggest impact on the attendance rate and budget.

Fourthly, Dr. Fovargue shared a proposed mission statement to reflect new language from the new Enhanced Primary Years Programme. A lengthy discussion on the Mission Statement ensued and several suggestions were made. Dr. Fovargue made some "wordy" changes and added the "International Baccalaureate" terminology back into a prominent position in the statement. Due to time, Dr. Fovargue stated she would email the revision to the members for further review. The new Magnet recruiting folders were shared with the committee, and each member was given a copy.

Fifthly, the 2019-2020 Executive Summary and the School Improvement Plan were reviewed and accepted unanimously by the committee.

Questions/Matters to be Addressed

Ms. Matthews referenced Mr. David's email regarding having student teachers from Rice or University of Houston to assist the large fourth grade classes this year. Ms. Like, fourth grade representative, shared most veteran teachers were not in favor of an extra person in the classroom. She stated that fourth grade teachers would meet with Dr. Fovargue to address any needs. Dr. Fovargue stated she had reached out to the principal at LMS to receive more information, but she had not heard back from him just yet or the program they had adopted at the middle school. She stated she would send an update when she received more information.

Ms. Sheehan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Godiwalla seconded the motion. All approved; the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.