**Members present**:

Tane Sims, Monica Bowes, Dawn Thompson, Edmund Locander, Cara Boynton, Kentasha McMorris, Kami Jenkins, Lauren Adams, Elizabeth Barrera, Heather Gaines, Erica Zatzkin

Meeting called to order: 3:30 p.m.

**School Updates:**

* Nurse hired
* Received 42K in miscellaneous operating costs – will be able to be used for summer expenses
* Wifi completed and drops are active
* Currently looking to replace outdated computers and repair/replace projectors. Email went out about replacing bulbs and being careful with equipment. Current SMART board models are not repairable unless done by a 3rd party person. New projectors are made by Epson. Will be spending on technology as we replace overtime.

**SIP Implementation Review #2:**

* More updates in January
* Current updates are around writing. We have portfolios and rubrics we use. We are focused on the writing process in each grade level

**Grading Discussion:**

* Article – Case Against a Zero shared with committee for review
* Copies of grading policy from Spring Branch School District to share: When we think about grades from a particular area, think about content areas (ex. 5th gr. Language arts) what types of experiences should kids have to come up with grade.

Question presented to Monica Bowes – learning and thinking important – hard to put a grade on. Would rather see a kid struggle and make a B then worksheet after worksheet make an A. Projects and hands on so important because open ended. Looking at grading guidelines she likes the structure to know what to do. Having a consistent policy not a negative.

Dawn shared that the discussion we want to have is around clear understanding to look at what kids walk away with. What experiences do kids walk away with to make up their grade? We want to move toward a deeper discussion in January. What would more structure on our campus look like?

**Heather** – Report cards were narratives when in Spring Branch as a teacher. Need systems in place for writing and other LA.

**Monica** – Hope we like the idea of consistent grading and less is more.

**Erica** – equity across grades, similar experiences between classes

**Dawn** – talk with staff members for similar grades and is aware. Kids are having similar experiences but not all of those experiences equate to a grade. Finding ways on campus to be more consistent. Gives you parameters for experiences had within your room.

**Tane** – From a parent perspective what do the weights mean? Give guidelines on what you want the project to look like?

Dawn shared that weights can be used in 2 different ways

**Locander** – Comes down to philosophy and what is valued. We want project based and hands on but school is evaluated by STAAR standards. Looking at 2 different things. Grading hardest in education.

**Cara** – GT projects are rich experiences, great components not paper based but part of education with the project. No grade but rich experience. Likes the idea of 3 major grades not specifically labeled as a test, could be project.

**Kami** – consistent across grade level and district makes life simpler. How can you put a grade on hands on? Can see thinking but how do you evaluate? Previous school graded homework but it did not give the outcome they wanted.

**Dawn** – Projects must be graded with a rubric to start all off equally. Ongoing challenge is everything can be graded.

**Kentasha** – Thinking from kinder level it starts early there – kids get a 1, 2, or 3. Setting up partner to be in the dark early on. Want their data to match what they are imputing a as grade. Want to be transparent and have difficult conversations early on.

**Lauren** – For projects how much is parent done v. student done?

**Barrera** – weight is a topic of discussion because inconsistent, would like school to be consistent. Making up work is a concern as well. How many times do we do and rotate?

**Dawn** – Great start to discussion. Want all to walk away with the most important part – each content area and what experiences should kids have or demonstrate mastery to come up with their grade. Look at LA – do they reflect, spelling, revision/editing, etc. Weights are another discussion for after the grading piece. Nothing would be changed or adjusted for this school year. Board policy is significant as well – we will look to this for parameters as well as seek ongoing input from teachers.

**Next Meeting Date:**

* January meeting will take place on Jan. 21st
* Read through information and share at next meeting other artifacts