



Mandarin Immersion Magnet School

休士顿中文沉浸学校

望子成龙望女成凤



SDMC Agenda March 6, 2017 EXCELLENCE & EQUITY

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll Call – Establish Quorum
- III. Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes – February 6, 2017 – Approved.
- V. Agenda Items
 1. TOY & BTOY Voting on Thursday – 12 teachers were nominated. First, teachers have to show they are willing to accept the nomination. Whichever teachers agree to the nomination, we will vote, then have a run-off vote of top three vote-getters.
 2. Late Pickup Update - Chang
 - a. On Thursday we had 0 students who weren't picked up. Today, 2 students who were not picked up.
 - b. The system is working far better than before.
 3. Growth Plan Policy update - Chang
 - a. Most kids on growth plan get off by the end of the semester. There's a very small number of students who are exited. This year is the first time students are on growth plans for tardies.
 4. Campus Discipline Plan Update - Chang
 - a. We talked to the staff last month. We would like to get it done by May, so it can go out to parents before the new school year gets started.
 5. Cutting Down Paper Usage
 - a. Chang - Last year, over \$10,000 was used for paper. We see wasted paper, English and Chinese assignments that are not used.
 - b. Ms. Garcia – We can take the Guest account off of the copy machine
 - c. Chang – We could limit number of reams per teacher per month
 - d. Simpson – At previous school, we got one ream per month.
 - e. Liu – That sounds good, that way we can plan
 - f. Lim – The Tuesday Folder has repeated papers by sibling. It also has a full sheet per announcement. Could it be condensed. Maybe some students with siblings don't need duplicate
 - g. Chang/Roberts – That would be a logistical challenge
 - h. Liu – Teachers don't need to have copies for each student.
 - i. Lim – I don't want teachers to worry about it. Parents can donate paper.
 - j. Garcia – We don't like the waste.
 - k. Simpson – I will ask the EPI packs to include one ream per student.
 - l. Chang – The school can give one per month, too
 6. Chinese New Year Update
 - a. Chang – Everything went well. We were invited to Silk Road Festival. April 22nd.
 7. “Hello Chinese, Goodbye English” Update
 - a. Chang – Kids are doing well, especially in upper grade levels. Some teachers are adding oral Chinese as a grade. They take 5 points off for each English use. In the next



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phase, the starting point will be 80. If you speak more, you earn points. First stage is discouraging use of English. The second stage is encouraging more use of Chinese. They also have an incentive system for students who speak 100% Chinese.

b. Liu – Likes the suggestion.

8. STAAR Living Tree Post

a. Chang - Some teachers are saying that some parents are talking about having their students “opt-out” of taking the STAAR

- i. There are some consequences to this that we want parents to understand
- ii. Children receive a score of “0”
- iii. Students will need to have experience with standardized testing
- iv. This affects the rating and reputation of our school
- v. The length of the test is reduced
- vi. It would have a negative affect on curriculum because we would have to focus more on test prep strategies and less on Chinese immersion

b. Lim – Can we make it a magnet expectation that students take the test? Parents really need to understand the consequences of not taking the test.

9. Science Bee Competition

- a. Information: <http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/154043>
 - i. Will take place after school on five different days
- b. Study Guide: <http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/154044>
- c. Possible competitions next year: reasoning and writing.
- d. Sign-up will be posted.

10. School Hours

- a. Mr. Chang – Some proposed adjustments
 - i. Student Arrival & Dismissal 7:35-3:20 – School day starts at 7:35, including pledges. This is an extension of student instructional day.
 - ii. Tardy 7:50, 15 minutes after instructional day starts, like last year.
 1. This will help learning because it is important for students to be present for the beginning of instruction
 - iii. Teacher Duty 7:50-3:35 – This is the same as this year
 - iv. Enrichment: 58 minutes for core teachers to provide 1 required meeting once every week (PLC), 45 minutes for enrichment teacher
 - v. SDMC unanimously approved this schedule

11. Safety Council Meeting

- a. Fire Drill: Primary Route on February 20, 2017
- b. District observation – The meeting is being rescheduled, so we don’t have feedback yet.

VI. Teacher Representative (sharing thoughts and comments from teachers)

- a. Simpson – Chinese High Frequency Words – Why don’t we hold students accountable for it? In English, kids have to pass high frequency words to be promoted. Why isn’t there accountability for what our magnet program is about?
 - i. Chang – At this point, we have 26 students who are still not passing
 - ii. Lim – So we need to get those students help
 - iii. Chang – We have an interventionist who provides help
 - iv. Simpson – Plus, teachers provide interventions in the classroom



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- v. Lim – So parents need to make a commitment.
- vi. Simpson – There should be magnet accountability
- vii. Lim – It should be spelled out with connection to the Entrance Agreement
- viii. Chang – Things like showing up for CNY Festival
- ix. Lim – Yes, it should be clear. Maybe it should be part of Signing Day
- x. Simpson – So how do we include the Chinese HFW on the entrance agreement?
- xi. Chang
 - 1. If students do not pass Beginning of Year (BOY) or MOY assessment, they could go to Growth Plan. If they don't pass EOY, they would be exited.
 - 2. If they only fail EOY, they could do a summer school.
 - 3. If students only pass EOY, we could consider summer school if there is budget.
- xii. Liu – The EOY should include more than just sight word recognition
- xiii. Chang – Writing would be added.
- xiv. SDMC unanimously agreed to the plan.
- b. Simpson – Tardies and absences. Can we make a certain number of tardies equal an absence?
 - i. Chang – Some schools have it affect conduct. But that's not right. It's a parent issue, not a kid issue. We have accountability through the magnet expectations.
- c. Simpson – Field trips. The handbook says two fields trips are required. Where is the money coming from? In Pre-K the budget is gone.
 - i. Roberts – Where is the money going?
 - ii. Simpson – Parties
 - iii. Roberts – Learning is more important
 - iv. Garcia – The school has to pay for the field trip regardless of whether or not kids pay. Kids have to sign a permission slip. That's the only requirement.
 - v. Chang – You can turn in the money we have. The school can either cancel the field trip or pay for it out of our budget.
 - vi. Garcia – It's really only about 5 kids per year that don't pay. Last year we only had 2-3 kids we had to pay for.
 - vii. Y Chen – We had 3 out of 44 who did not pay.
 - viii. Simpson – But that only pays for ticket, not bus.
 - ix. Garcia – We can pay for bus.
 - x. Simpson – Okay problem solved.
 - xi. Chang – But the teachers still need to make their good faith effort to collect the money or it won't work.
 - xii. Simpson – I will do follow up with parents and let them know that it could be canceled if there is not enough.
 - xiii. Chang – Yes. You can publish that this you need x amount by ____ date or it is canceled.
- VII. Parent Representative (sharing thoughts and comments from parents)
 - a. Lim – Are we still doing a flyer about bullying?
 - i. Chang – Ms. Liu was going to do a flyer
 - ii. Liu – Yes, I will work on that
- VIII. Open Forum



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IX. Proposal for next meeting: April 3, 2017
VII. Adjourn