

Heartland Elementary
School Community Council Meeting
Virtual / Google Meeting
Wednesday, May 27th, 2020

Attendees: Buddy Alger (Principal,) Janiece Atwood (Secretary-prepares minutes,) Krystine Edwards, Kate Walker, Michelle Whitchurch, Andrea Robinson (Chair,) Robin Ashton, Rebecca Simons, Stephanie Berg, Whitney Fenech

Meeting Start Time: 5:05 p.m.

Welcome: Andrea

Covid-19 Update: Buddy

Grades, progress reports- Number grades will be given in the main areas (core classes.) Any blanks on report card just means that the teacher didn't have enough data to grade that area. #1-4 in main areas such as reading, writing, math, science.

End of year activities- a calendar went out of the activities for this week and next. They're using Skylert, teacher messages and social media to relay these messages. Participation of these activities not required, but good for school culture and fun for kids. We'll be doing the following virtually-4 bedtime stories, scavenger hunt, talent show, awards assembly, and dance party.

Back to School Bash (PTA and School): Buddy

Planning a fun bash to welcome kids back to school. Similar to the traditional Back To School Night, but more of a carnival-type party for fun. Teaming up with the PTA for this because PTA has funds and plans they weren't able to use this school year. Depends on Covid-19 restrictions of course, but this would be something fun and exciting to welcome the kids back to school.

Land Trust Updated Hire: Buddy

Hertz took a full-time position at Majestic, so we're sad to see her go, but we hired another art teacher. She has a great background working with special needs students as well as Title I school. Her name is Alena Anderson.

Husky Award: Buddy

Luckily we were able to finish out this program this year, despite the Corona pandemic, and we had quite a few participants earn the award(s). There will be changes to the program next year. He wants to update it. The academics part is outdated, we have newer standards now. He will recreate the individual Husky pieces. In addition to the Husky Award, he wants to implement good behavior recognition. Purchase lanyards for the students that will stay at the school until their time at Heartland is done (6th grade or earlier if they move.) Hold 'Pinning Assemblies', possibly quarterly, where kids will be "pinned" for the things they participated in-Battle of the Books, Perfect Attendance, School Spirit, etc. Wants to have Fridays be 'School Spirit' days where kids would wear school-colored shirts and possibly "show off" their lanyards on Fridays as well. This would be more of a school achievement recognition program, not based on things the child does at home. A combo of academics and behavior at the school. Better to recognize these things throughout the year, rather than just at the end of the year, like the current Husky Award program. It will add school spirit, culture, acceptance and community. A lot of the current program is student leadership and some things are out of the kids' control (such as attending spirit nights at restaurants or attending Math Night at the school-if the parents don't want to attend, the kid misses that opportunity to earn that.) Also, currently, parents don't know what the kid has passed off with the teacher at school or not, so with the new program, there would be less confusion for the parents.

Inside Days (Weather): Buddy

The current guidelines are working just fine, so all agree to keep it the same, make no changes. As stated in October 2019 SCC meeting: 21 degree and below= inside. 22 degree and above= outside. Jana will check the weather, it's measured by the "Feels Like temp," not actual temp. We'll still use the flags to indicate an inside day. Also as policy-15 min. heavy moisture or dirty air quality will reflect this.

Misc. Items: board members

(Michelle) Summer Lunch program: It will stay the same through June (pick-up lunch and breakfast, drive-through-style at 11am, M-F. Hopefully by July, we can open the cafeteria as well as the library so that families can visit, eat, utilize the space, and purchase adult meals if preferred, etc. but we have to follow guidelines, so we don't know just yet.

(Michelle) Will computer learning programs still be accessible throughout summer: Imagine Math will expire July 15th and we chose not to renew it because we found a different program to use next year, but otherwise, all other programs will continue during summer (Kahn Academy, Lexia, etc.) Ask your child's teacher for better details or passwords, etc. Kate warns not to let your kids get too far ahead in subjects such as math, because it may cause a snowball effect of being ahead for the rest of their school years.

Bridge- hoping it goes in soon, but no real updates yet. Had 3 motorcops at the school today to monitor speeders coming through the lunch time crossing; it's been a problem lately. No real Fall updates yet. Not sure what Covid guidelines will be in place at that time.

Teacher Retention: Looking good, although summer often brings along weddings and babies which can affect retention. 1 teacher is moving for a coaching position elsewhere, Hertz is leaving for the new art school (Majestic re-vamped,) 1 teacher moved closer to home, 1 going back to their previous school because an awaited position opened up. All other teachers retained at this point. Happy teachers and community.

Closing notes: Buddy- so thankful and grateful to the parents for dealing so well with the pandemic. They're excited to have students back soon. We expect a few changes in the fall, but at some level, looking forward to being back together again. Andrea- thanks for serving on the board this year and for taking time out of your day to jump on this virtual meeting. Have a good summer!

Meeting Adjourned: 5:34 p.m.