

Ensign Elementary School Community Council Meeting

5/17/20; 7:30am via Zoom

Attendance

Parents: Brianne Emery, Ashley Anderson, Brittany Dimick, Linda Scholl, Amy Fehlberg, Carl Whittaker, Melissa Riley

Staff: Erik Jacobson, Dani Phifer, Jenny Panameno, Polly Parkinson

School Board: Katherine Kennedy

Absent: Sarah Colonna, Chantelle Rohlfing, Dianne Boogert, Lacey Hola

Welcome & Business Items (BE)

- *Motion to approve April minutes (LS), seconded (AF), unanimously approved 7:34am*
- Discussion of upcoming year; leadership determined in spring with membership elections in the fall
- *Nomination of Ashley Anderson for 2020-2021 Chair (BE), seconded (LS), unanimously approved 7:35am*
- No Vice Chair is currently interested or available, will revisit in the fall

Principal's Report (EJ)

- District has released grading preferences with the addition of Q (quarantine) to categories which can't be assessed with given data
- Dates for device turn in at Ensign are May 27-28 and June 1 from 9am-4pm; devices to drop off include instruments and laptops
- End of Year Parade for Teachers and 6th Graders, June 3 at 10am; map and details coming soon
- For these details check the Monday announcements on [Facebook here](#).
- Back to School Night should include yearbook signing, navigating in collaboration with Bryant's timetable is in flux
- Minimal answers about next year's schedule but maintaining patience while awaiting directives; district choices are likely to be guided by the state and no one can plan too far in advance

SIC Report (JP)

- Have sent calendar dates for approval including Back to School Night and SEP Conference dates
- There is some confusion about whether the calendar is correct and aligns with PTA; Erik will check and report back

PTA Report (AF)

- Finalized a fundraiser letter in lieu of Gallery Stroll
- Approved a budget with substantial cuts to allow for programming regardless of fall fundraising totals; the budget includes contracting Amy Schelble and supporting classroom teachers, any reductions of programming will be minimal

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School Board Update (KK) Questions with sent to Katherine by SCC members and are presented here as Q&A:

- Will the district establish policies for independent contractors? Contractors, including paras, should be hired but what that looks like is in flux.
- For BTS teachers, will Adam Eskelson determine the approach or will the state? Believes that Adam and the Fine Arts Dept. will decide for BTS but will check, wants to ensure arts continue in district schools.
- Will the district look at alternative schedules for the fall? Dialogue seems to be that minimized class size could include either alternating half days or alternating days of the week. If online learning continues this may be the result of additional information about subsequent conditions in children with COVID-19, such as kidney or heart problems. As higher education also navigates this, will look at their examples
- How much can an interim superintendent guide these decisions and how much will already be in place? At the 5/19 board meeting, will request a task force to put things in place because there is frustration that the board is not being consulted on many choices. While school employees have been understanding of choices made, parents can always reach out to get more information.
- Will 10 day counts (for attendance) be suspended even if school resumes? This policy will come from the USBE, the district will work with the state and assumes there will be flexibility in funding through attendance
- Does the schoolboard meet through the summer? July is typically off but may have a retreat with the interim superintendent. [Find scheduled meetings here and follow live streamed meetings on Facebook here.](#)
- What's the timeline for the interim and superintendent hires? A business manager and interim superintendent should be in place by July, ideally June. Then there will be an August/September time period for a Superintendent search. Valuing public input, will prioritize a listening tour similar to late start that collects feedback from all areas of the district.
- What resources are available for summer? Erik responds that all contracts have different timetables, classroom teachers will know some and the school office will know others, many are available through at least June; Polly adds that Lightbox will be available on Follett on the Library page through summer

Thank you to outgoing members and leaders!

Motion to adjourn (PP), seconded (MR), unanimously adjourned 8:09am