

### 12/3/2020 Minutes for Columbia Elementary Community Council

#### Attending:

Dr. Daryl Denhalter- principal  
Leslie Bertram-assistant principal  
Jennifer Curtis- teacher- 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Cori Burns- teacher- 1<sup>st</sup> grade  
Cloe Hewett- teacher- 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Annette Solt-Chair (parent)  
Kristy Grantonic- parent  
Melissa Fredrick- parent  
Amy Norton- parent  
Jennifer Hughs- parent

**Technology survey-** Kristy and Annette created this. Annette clarified she doesn't want to be seen as anti-technology, just wants to make sure we know what the school community wants as far as technology goes.

Clarification for parent in survey would be time spent on device by student.

Points brought up:

- Dr. Denhalter noted-All things are technology now really; projector used to project from computer; virtual field trips, etc. etc.
- Cloe: They are never unsupervised because they are always able to get help from an aide or teacher so it's not just a child sitting on a device
- Annette's concern is will the "refresh" money be enough for the upkeep or will we always need to dedicate trust lands money to upkeep technology?
- Dr. Denhalter suggested informing parents first of how technology is used by each teacher.
- Ms. Burns noted it is cut and dry and still gives us good information and will help us see if parent perception is off. Survey should be sent out rather than table it for later.
- Minor change to wording in survey: typing to keyboarding; add world languages; add word processing (word, power point, excel)
- Dr. Denhalter noted "We never put technology before learning. The technology enhances the learning."

#### **Discussion about money spent**

Dr. Denhalter assumes it's all classrooms when we give money and that should always include SpEd classrooms.

- Jen mentioned that of course SpEd should be included, but they didn't come to present that need. We thought money to vote was for that little discretionary money
- No other grades presented a need at the meeting when we were deciding these funds.
- Funds were voted on for 2 grade levels that came: 1<sup>st</sup> grade that came to present for Mystery Science and Kindergarten for additional reading aide support
- It was agreed that we would focus on early interventions -not just allocating aides to all classrooms (this is where there is misunderstanding)

-What is the process for voting for the discretionary funds?

-Dr. Denhalter has held up the funding to SpEd aides because there was some miscommunication or misunderstanding of those on community council

-SpEd is not funded as much as we may think and funds needed ASAP for those aides though and would like to retroactively make up for that to try to make up for lost time

-Annette noted we should follow a more formal voting in the future so we all understand what we are voting for.

-Leslie Bertram shared data from district for reading and the biggest deficit is shown by those current 1<sup>st</sup> graders (noted that this validates our concern for more early intervention)

-Cori Burns had concern about the 1<sup>st</sup> grade being measured in different areas so it's not accurately measuring progress on same skills. Beginning of year (BOY) and Middle of year (MOY) measure different things.

-Mr. Denhalter reminded that we could use all trust land money to hire another full-time teacher if that's what the community council deemed best to keep class size down

-Next meeting in January where teachers will again be invited to present needs for the council to consider.