

Sabin Middle School
School Accountability Committee
8/31/20

Attendance:

Parent Members:

Neil Pettigrew(Chair)
Velvet Stepanek
Jane Tucker
Chelle Ehlen

School Members:

Bill Walker
Jared Welch
Kayla Perkins

Community Members:

Neil called the meeting to order at 6:20 after some problems with the Webex link.

1. Introductions

Two new parents of 6th graders. Kayla Perkins also joined us new this year. She is a 6th grade GMP teacher.

2. Approve agenda

3. SAC officers and schedule for the 2020 – 2021 school year:

Neil Pettigrew, SAC Chair, neil70retiredpet@gmail.com

Velvet Stepanek, SAC Secretary, vstepanek@msn.com

Meeting dates for 2020: September, no meeting; October 5th, November 2nd, December 7th, 2021 dates later.

All meetings will take place via Webex conferences until we can meet safely back at school.

The website needs to be updated. Velvet will work with Marsha West to get this done.

4. SAC overview for new members:

All participants have been on SACs before so no overview was needed.

5. Enrollment and Staffing for the 2020– 2021 School year:

Still trying to contact all students. Students are counted when they log in.

Enrollment was projected at 755. We have 770 students currently enrolled so we are above

projections. With remote learning starting last week the count was at 680 students. Still trying to make contact with families and students that are missing. Some families have had issues getting on-line. We are reaching out to families that still need Chromebooks.

We have a new Assistant Principal, Glenn Hawthorne. He came from teaching at Doherty High School.

We had to hire a new part-time ELL teacher that will be shared with Mann Middle School. There were some other new core teachers also hired.

Last year we had a cut of 4 Full Time Educators (FTEs). Exploratory classes are large currently. We're trying to request help from the district to balance classes. Five staff members are currently working from home.

6. Building Improvements

New carpet in the front office, in the process of getting a new desk for the front office.

Painted walls

Currently replacing carpet in the hallways. One hallway is complete.

Band room had carpet replaced.

Small Gym floor was replaced

Climbing wall was upgraded.

7. Advisory Update

Advisory during remote learning is happening Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Currently they are making contact with all students, greeting them, and making sure they know the schedule for the day. The Social Emotional Curriculum, Second Step, will be started in Advisory the week of September 14th.

8. Distance Learning Questions

How is attendance being taken? Tuesday-Friday attendance is being taken in each class. Monday work is being done through Schoology. Reports from Schoology are being used to check attendance.

What are students expected to do on Mondays? Students should be logging into Schoology and checking every class for assignments to be completed on Monday. Monday afternoons small groups of students will be coming into the school building. The students coming are English Language Learners, Special Education, students with IEPs or ALPs. Today about 70 students came in. Monday is the only day that students are coming into the building currently.

How are students doing with remote learning?

There have been some tech issues. More students attended as the first week went on. It is hard for some families. Some students are home by themselves or watching over younger siblings. Teachers are missing in-person relationships but are working hard to make remote learning successful.

6th grade parents were thankful for 6th grade orientation that happened at the building last week.

How are we going to tell how students are doing academically?

Every student will be taking a benchmark assessment to see where they are academically. The window for middle school benchmark test is September 14 for a three week period. This test will be given in the winter and spring to see how students are doing. Quarterly Aligned District Benchmark tests will not be given this year.

Students may be coming back earlier than the end of the first quarter. 6th graders coming back the week of September 14, 7th graders coming back the week of September 21, and 8th graders coming back week of September 28. Students that want to stay home will have access to classes that are occurring in-person. Some questions that came up. Are teachers ready to switch to in-person learning this quickly? Can we manage social distancing in classrooms with some large class sizes? How are lunches going to work? These questions will be addressed soon.

How is homework graded and submitted?

Homework can be submitted via Schoology. Teachers are also using discussion boards. Students are still writing in notebooks but final drafts can be submitted via Schoology. Parents will be given a Schoology code so they can access student assignments.

9. USIP Status and School Performance Framework (SPF)

SPF did not change for this year since no state test was taken in the spring. Sabin is still an Empower school which means we get extra support from the district. The draft of the USIP is due September 11 to the district. We will discuss in October meeting.

10. School budget and finances

Mr. Welch did not distribute a school budget for this meeting. School did receive CARES Act money to buy needed supplies. We will look at the budget next month.

Will there be a refund of money paid for activities that didn't happen last year such as GMP camp? Mr. Welch said they are working on this.

A question about yearbook distribution came up for the current 9th graders. Yearbooks are available to be picked up.

11. Good news.

Thankful to the District Food services for meals throughout the summer. Veggie and fruit boxes were also available to families once a week throughout the summer. This was appreciated.

All 6th graders were offered in person orientation to Sabin. Currently WEB leader meetings have been all virtual. When we go back to in-person learning WEB leaders will be able to meet their 6th graders.

We are recruiting for band and orchestra.

Currently looking at having virtual clubs and activities. There is the possibility of small groups meeting. This would include Battle of the Books, Minecraft club, etc. There will be more information. Parents are very appreciative that this is being considered. There will be no middle school athletics until students are back in the building.

12. Upcoming events.

There will be a virtual open house the week of September 14. Look for more information to come.

The next Sabin SAC meeting will be October 5th at 6:00 via Webex. A link will be sent out to all parents.