

School Council Meeting

Date: 8/26/24

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Location: Desert Shadows Elementary School

Facilitator: Bryan Cunningham, Principal

Committee Members Present:

- **Administrator Representative** – Patricia Noack, Administrative Assistant
- **Community Member Representative** – Julie Simpson
- **Teaching Staff Representative** – April Padilla Gladden, Kindergarten Teacher
- **Teaching Staff Representative** – Morgan Vandenberg, Kindergarten Teacher, Parent
- **Teaching Staff Representative** – Christy Welborn, 4th Grade Teacher
- **Parent Representative** – Jennelle Bartlett, Parent of 4th and 6th Grader
- **Parent Representative** – Arturo De La Cruz, Parent of 1st grader
- **Parent Representative** – Megan Knee, Parent of 2nd and 5th Grader
- **Parent Representative** – Heather Villarruel, Parent of 2nd Grader

Purpose: Provide a positive and safe school community, where all students obtain higher level, innovative, and career readiness skills through an integrated curricular approach.

Outcomes: All questions and concerns were addressed and positive feedback provided.

Agenda/Minutes

I. Welcome

- A. Introduce Members

II. Required Trainings

- A.  School Council Training - Modified
- B.  DSES School Council Bylaws

III. District and School Updates

- A. Staffing Update - District= Dr Reynolds- SuperIntendant (interim), Danielle Else- Director of Student Services, and Heidi Lindsay- Assistant Superintendent of Leadership. We have a long term sub for 5th grade, Mrs. LaFevre. She was previously a Speech and Language Pathologist at DSES. The job is posted but we are looking for a qualified teacher. There

will be a better chance of filling the position in January. After a certain number of days, if someone is hired, they will be considered interim and do not have to be hired for the following school year. We are still looking for a band teacher. We are 1 of 8 elementary schools without a band teacher. We also need a custodian.

- B. Level 4 PBIS Award and Model School Process - Level 4 is the highest level and we are looking to go through the model school process. That means other schools could come to us for guidance on what we do. They like to focus on "If not here, then where?"
- C. Feedback on the beginning of the year - PTA wants to be higher on the Desert Shadows Digest newsletter. Some new things we added this year is a "Did You Know" that highlights additional education and training teachers are working on and a "Staff Shout Out" for parents to acknowledge staff.
- D. Parent Feedback - Cultural Ideas - Results from the parent survey scored us low in multicultural events. If anyone has any suggestions, we'd love to hear them. For Literacy Night, it was suggested that we try to bring in an author that might be able to do cultural storytelling. This could be accomplished during Read Across America Week as well.

IV. Tax Credit Approval

- A. Crayola Experience Kindergarten - 9/27, We Make History - 5th grade 11/22, Universal Studios/CA Science Center - 5th grade 2/26-2/28, San Diego with SeaWorld and a marine lab - 6th grade 2/19-2/21, Great Skate STEAM trip 5th grade - 5/9. Decided against Knott's Berry Farm because of the focus on rollercoasters. It excluded some that did not like rollercoasters. Astro Camp was decided against due to the rising cost and the amount of planning that went into it. Project Exploration handles security, tour guides, planning, and coordinates the transportation. One member abstained from voting. All were approved should tax credit general funds need to be used for full or partial scholarships in addition to helping bring the cost down for the students.

V. Good of the Order

- A. School Council Member Statements - Former DSpES family said the transition to DSES has been seamless and the majority of the kids and parents wish they had been here since kindergarten. It has been a great calm after the storm. Students liked the newcomers group. Student coming from North Ranch felt important because the principal knew who he was on the 2nd day of school. STUCO has been opened up to all students, regardless of having an officer position.
- B. Public Statements - UPC Representative mentioned that the school district is working on System Wide Accreditation. This could involve someone from district walking into classes to make sure classes are on task and doing what is scheduled during that time period.

The next meeting will be September 9th, 2024

Meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.