Meeting Minutes

9/24/24

In attendance: D. Weinbaum, M. Calabrese, M. Harper, K. Colvin, L. Hicks, A. Prater. Not in attendance: T. Carranza, M. Jackson.

Welcome and Introductions: Present members introduced themselves. Member M. Jackson is no longer living in district and will need to be replaced for the remainder of his term.

Officer Nominations and selection:

Chairperson- Kim Colvin (1st nomination – K. Colvin; 2nd – L. Hicks)
Vice-Chairperson – Lisa Hicks (1st nomination – L. Hicks; 2nd – K. Colvin)
Secretary – Misty Harper (will continue to serve from prior year)

Superintendent Key Priorities:

Elevating the Excellence in academics/achievement

Elevate the Excellence in effective School Board-Superintendent Governance

Elevate the Excellence in district coordination and alignment of goals, systems, and processes.

Elevate the Excellence by embracing a pervasive high-quality school environment.

Our students should learn more, grow more and achieve more on our watch.

Beginning of School Year

ParentVue – took place of Back to School Gateway. The staff side of the software is called Synergy. Staff transitioned to the new software at the beginning of the school year.

ParentSquare – attendance notification, notices from Principal. Must be signed up in ParentVue with an email address to receive notifications.

Canvas – where communication of grades/curricular information.

Curriculum Night – went well. Few people in attendance. Discussed attendance. Kim Colvin shared that attendance was low at the elementary school. Discussed how other schools had curriculum night. Some schools had a video curriculum night, some had limited numbers of teachers in attendance, some schools had meetings for different areas.

Transportation – kinks worked out as always in the beginning.

Dress Code/Cell Phone Policy – information sent out by Ms. Weinbaum prior to the start of school.

- These issues were overarching issues brought up from teacher, parent and administrator groups.
- Both policies were included in the handouts for council members.
- More structure to the dress code was added. Ms. Weinbaum reviewed dress code policy guidelines.
    - Refer to Appendix A: CCSD Student Dress Code,
- Cell Phone Policy has been a fairly easy transition.
    - Students are more engaged

- Students have transitioned very easily
- Parents on council shared they liked that the phones aren't allowed, but noted that it was an extreme change.

School Improvement Plan

Goals: DRMS Instructional Focus Timeline

- Kagan Strategies
- Feedback using cues
- Critical thinking
- Outlining/Summarizing (including annotating text)
    - DRMS has placed Annotate Text Posters in each classroom to increase continuity.

SIP goals will be developed:
* Attendance goals
* Action steps for ELA and Math
* High Impact Strategies
* At Risk Students

Milestone data reviewed. Reminder that the students from SY 22-23 and SY 23-24 were different groups of students.

Chief Culture

DRMS Initiative for building school community:

- Accountability (Acceptance of responsibility)
- Compassion (Regard of other's worth)
- Respect (Empathy in action)

Proactive strategies to address discipline issues.
Counselors go in to classrooms for guidance lessons
Mini lessons from teachers during CARES lessons

Safety and Security

ID checks when people come in the building and compared against student allowed check out list.
Badge readers for staff to get in secured doors.
Classroom doors are locked and closed at all times. Teachers have keys.
School Police Officer on campus.
Cameras in buildings for security.
More discussion about safety and security.

When something happens elsewhere, there are many rumors that spread.

Ms. Weinbaum assured council members that if anything is reported it is thoroughly investigated. Reports often come from social media. Please encourage anyone with concerns to call school administration and school counselors. If there is anything to share, it will be communicated in conjunction with school operations to parents.

Parent L. Hicks asked about panic buttons. Ms. Weinbaum explained that there are two levels of emergency. One that notifies school administration and one that notifies all law enforcement agencies.

Flashing light, automated voice alerts.

There is an administrative team that receives the messages on the laptops/phones.

The outside notification (2nd alert type) notifies law enforcement is alerted immediately.

If anything happens at SHS or HFES, DRMS is also alerted/locked down because a campus is shared.

The Code Red practice will use the system so that students can hear the message.

Basketball

The only school sports at middle school level are boys/girls basketball and cheerleading. Other sports are run through boosters at the high school and are "Jr. Chiefs" programs.

Social Media

Please monitor your children's social media.
Ms. Weinbaum reminded council members that any social media posts that disrupt school, the school gets involved.

Leadership Qualities of a Principal

Refer to Leadership Qualities of a Principal – Dean Rusk Middle School

Question

L. Hicks asked about one-to-one technology. Pause on the previous direction regarding return to one-to-one. Currently every classroom has 10 devices. Teachers can arrange sharing from other teachers, laptop labs and set up stations to use Chromebooks in groups.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting