

Instructional Council Meeting Minutes

Date 5/8/25

Time _3:10 - 4:00 PM__

Location _Library__

Facilitator name _Christin Johnson__

Time Keeper name _Cara Heck__

Recorder name _ Mandy Allred__

Members Present

___ Amanda Allred

___ Sheila Barbour

___ Lauren Condon

___ Teresa Fierro

___ JD Harding

___ Christine Herrera

___ Cara Heck

___ Christin Johnson

___ Rachael Koenigsfeld

___ Ashley Keilbarth

___ Linda MacMaster

___ Lillian Manfredi

___ Margita Martinez

___ Deborah Muldawer

___ Jessie Olson

___ Olivia Oyinatumba

___ Anna Rogge

___ Geoff Smith

___ Crystal Yamazaki

___ Parent representative (Mrs. Mistalski)

Agenda Topic – Announcements

- Ashley has begun looking at the Genius Hour Survey from yesterday. There are about 85 students missing. Ashley has sent the Google Form to feeder schools. Hopefully current 5th grade classes will fill this out for next year.
- Olivia will be our principal for next year. The superintendent will be moving lots of principals all around the district. So, it makes sense that Olivia was placed rather than interviewed. We are lucky to have a principal who knows the community rather than having an AP placed. There will be a committee to have an AP hired for next year.
- Staff end of year survey needs filled out.
 - There have been a lot of issues with difficult students this year. Unfortunately, the admin team has a very limited amount of control over how to work with our most difficult students. This has been reiterated within all of APS and can be seen through the union notes.
 - The admin is very limited in what they can do to discipline students.
- AVID is selling coupons for \$10 for the thirty dollar car wash at the Tidal Wave car wash. See Christin if you'd like to purchase one.
- Please bring any non-perishable foods for the new food pantry that will be organized through the FCCLA class. A Google Form will be created for students to request food.

Agenda Topic: New Bell Schedule

- The majority of the staff voted to meet every day NOT for the block.
- There will be a 45 minute period for genius hour.
-  New Bell Schedule (Proposal)
- Mandy brought up that the ELA department was wondering if we have to meet both genius hour and advocacy every week. Or could we meet each class (advocacy and genius hour) every other week to lower our “non-prep” preps.
- There is no DEAR time scheduled right now but IC agreed we WILL have DEAR time next year based on the data reviewed from the student survey and research which supports reading time. Ashley will redo the bell schedule to include DEAR time during 3rd period.
- Olivia and Ashley need to have our bell schedule finalized by Tuesday.

Agenda Topic: DEAR Time

- We need to see if DEAR time is functional for the future. Should it be added in? Jessie thought that it is frustrating that we are giving up on something so quickly.
-  Spring 2025 Dear Survey Results
- Staff
 - The 31 staff members who responded and say they are doing it regularly see engagement. (65% engagement.) We can assume the staff who didn’t answer the survey don’t do DEAR time.
 - The primary issue is people who don’t participate don’t see the engagement.
 - Most teachers see more engagement this year than last year.
 - Lots of teachers are using audio books.
 - Most of the staff who responded feel that the DEAR time is about a 4.
- Students
 - 344 students responded
 - Majority of students don’t have a strong opinion about it. However, many students said that reading is boring.
 - Some students commented that they like the quiet time/time to decompress.
 - Lots of kids say they are learning about books from teachers or the librarian, but don’t have much engagement with reading at home.
 - Many students don’t think DEAR time is making them a better reader, but there were a lot of maybe’s.
 - Lots of students’ parents and guardians don’t encourage them to read.
- One argument for DEAR time is that many students don’t have any way to learn about books without the teachers supporting reading at the school.
- Fierro brought up that there is a lot of engagement in her class for reading. They have done both audio and independent reading. Linda, Mandy, and Jessie all agree that DEAR time is valuable.
- Ms. Mistalski said that as a parent she and her family like DEAR time.
- Lillian brought up the fact that it may be helpful to share this information with families. The PowerPoint could possibly be sent home.
- ***IC has voted to include DEAR time in next year’s schedule, so that will be adjusted accordingly.***

Agenda Topic: Honor Roll

- Some thoughts on JUST having the honor roll assembly attended by the students on honor roll.
 - Allow the students on honor roll to invite two friends to the assembly.
 - Include JUST honor roll students at the assembly.
 - We could do all the grade levels together. This would reduce the number of assemblies.

Agenda Topic: New Cell Phone Policy in Light of Governor’s Signed Bill

- Must start with APS leadership. However, we haven't heard anything from leadership about this at this time. They may make a unified policy, but that isn't the norm for the district.
- Policies are only as good as the adults who enforce them. There are adults who don't align with the policies, so that NEEDS to happen.
- The bill says no phones at school next year, but the APS leadership will need to make a plan for this.
- How will this affect behavior at school next year?
- Possibly pocket holder, shoe box, etc. Unfortunately, if there isn't 100% teacher support for the no phone policy, this becomes a problem. This needs to be unified.
- It was brought up that making us call the parents each time takes a lot of teacher time, and may be a reason teacher's aren't enforcing the policy. Easy fix, give this to someone in admin. Christine said maybe she can make a Google Form.

Agenda Topic: Duty Schedule

- Keep the same process of requesting duty stations.
- There will be some changes in order to hopefully reduce the number of days of duty from 5 days per week.
- Christine will be willing to look at all of this data again.
- It was brought up that it was nice to switch at semester.

Agenda Topic: After School Club Survey

- There is a survey that will go out to 6th and 7th grade students during advisory on May 21 to help secure funding for after school clubs.

Agenda Topic: TikTok Challenge

- Something will be sent home to parents today.
- If you see a kid doing this, take the Chromebook right away. Then send it down to the office and they will look into it and charge the students.

Agenda Topic: IC Retreat Date

- Not mandatory; will be paid if you attend. Date TBD

Next Meeting: May 22