Cherokee County School District
School Council
Meeting Minutes Notes

Arnold Mill Elementary School
School Council

DATE 10/15/26 MEETING TIME 7:45-9:33 MEETING LOCATION Conference Room

MEETING CALLED BY	Abbey Philpot
TYPE OF MEETING	School Council
PRINCIPAL	Abbey Philpot
NOTE TAKER	Rebecca Lane
BOARD ATTENDEES	Abbey Philpot, Robyn Pitkins, Dan Lewis, Jason Quinn (absent), Kelly Trummer, Becky Lane, and Katheryn Calvert
GUEST ATTENDEES	Josh Malcom: CCSD Capital Improvements

Agenda Items

TIME ALLOTTED: TOPIC: CCSD Capital Improvements PRESENTER: Josh Malcom

	Meeting was called to order by Katheryn Calvert at 7:45 am.
DISCUSSION	Mr. Malcom came to present all of the projects that will be going on in the next 5-year cycle as a result of SPLOST Educational funds. SPLOST is on the next November 3rd ballot. - PowerPoint presentation highlighting each year in the next 5 years and what projects will be done in that time frame for a variety of schools. - Josh and his crew have been reviewing facilities. They presented their findings to the school board in January, and in July presented their plan for making improvements. - Arnold Mill is slated to receive RMA (Remodel, Maintenance, and Addition) improvements in the year 2031. - We visited the county website where the SPLOST projects that are forthcoming are discussed in detail; no transparency. - We also looked at previous years' projects that were completed using SPLOST funds. - SPLOST goes to more than just capital improvements. It can also be used for instructional resources, arts programs, athletics, career workforce readiness, safety and security, and technology.
CONCLUSIONS	Very informative!

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

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TIME ALLOTTED | TOPIC: School Council Training Presentation | PRESENTER: Abbey Philpot

DISCUSSION	Arnold Mill School Council - Training video was watched by all members present. - Following the video, new roles were voted upon 1) Chairperson: Katheryn Calvert 2) Vice Chairperson: Kelly Trummer 3) Secretary: Becky Lane Each committee member has a 2-year commitment Our meetings are open to the public and all meetings are open records Minutes of all meetings will posted on the school website. Minutes must be presented to council members within 20 days of the meeting, and then formerly approved at the following meeting.
CONCLUSIONS	AMES School Council is ready for a wonderful 2026-2027 school year!

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send out a notification of our next meeting at least 7 days prior to the meeting	Abbey Philpot	

TIME ALLOTTED: | TOPIC: Report of the Principal | PRESENTER: Abbey Philpot

DISCUSSION	AMES Enrollment Information - Current enrollment at AMES is 747 - Mrs. Philpot shared a document that reviewed all of the enrollment data, including subgroups and grade levels. Program breakdowns (EIP, EL, Special Education, Gifted, 504's, and MTS) were also highlighted. CCSD Mission - We reviewed the CCSD mission and district priorities and how they feed into our SIP (School Improvement Plan) - Supportive Accountability Governance Model was looked at in terms of the district goals for each grade level over a three-year span. AMES SIP - Aligns with the district goals - Reviewed the ELA, Math, and attendance goals and the action steps for each. Specifically, for math and ELA: focus instruction on academic vocabulary, align instruction to the rigor of the standards, and promote collaborative learning and academic discourse. For attendance, the administrative team and other staff meet once a month to discuss action steps and review strategies to help increase the attendance of those students that are repeatedly missing school.

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	Board to Classroom Alignment - Grading policy changes (more so focused on high school and middle school levels) - The CCSD Code of Conduct was strengthened. Accountability - How are all of the items in the SIP/Classroom Alignment initiatives being held accountable? Learning walks, instructional rounds, and Quarterly data reviews are being used. Fall Screener Data - We looked at the Early Literacy STAR (K-2), Reading STAR (3-5), and Math STAR data across the grade levels. - These screeners help us to determine student needs (possible need for interventions) and guide instruction. - The 3-5 screener is extremely vocabulary-heavy, hence the focus on vocabulary instruction as part of our SIP. - 3-5 grade scores on the fall screener were a little lower than anticipated. But we will be monitoring and see what the results are on the growth monitoring coming up, as well as the Winter Screener in December.
CONCLUSIONS	Our students and their success are our priority!

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

TIME ALLOTTED: TOPIC: New Business PRESENTER: Committee

DISCUSSION	We looked at the "Leadership Qualities of a Principal" and discussed if any changes needed to be made. - Change the wording for "ParentSquare" to "CCSD Direct." - In item #2 change the word "Promote" to "Sustain" Feedback on CCSD Direct - Parent council members felt that the platform is very streamlined and consistent. They also felt that it was easy to use and nice to have everything in one place in terms of school and teacher communication. - One recommendation was to have teachers communicate to parents when they have availability to read messages so that parents know they may need to contact the front office in case of an emergency. Conference Week Feedback - Parents questioned why the change. More time for teachers to really reach parents and meet during the school day. - Twenty-five minute times have been great. No feeling of having to rush. - Some confusion on after school care options. Looking ahead, this will be rectified.
CONCLUSIONS	Great feedback!

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Create an infographic for January conference days.	Abbey Philpot/Committee	

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Motion to close meeting by Katheryn Calvert at 9:33 am		

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