

BCSIS Ed Council Agenda
December 18, 2018
3:00 – 4.15pm

Mindfulness regarding participation during meetings and

-Reflect what teachers do in the classroom; hold back if you typically jump in; speak up if you typically don't.

Teacher Share with classroom updates (Meaghan and teachers)

How We Encourage Thought About Equity In Our Classrooms

Kindergarten: Within the social-emotional realm, we are working on finding stillness in ourselves, so that we can listen better to others.

First Grade: We are always thinking about what voices are missing in a content area and we try to shed light on it in a developmentally appropriate way. For example, as we study the Native Americans, we tell the story of "change" in regards to their lives when white settlers arrived.

Second Grade: Second grade created the Great Wall of China and tied it in to today's current events concerning border walls in order to honor different perspectives and historical patterns. The class discussed the differences between the walls in an age appropriate manner, and the teacher emailed parents to inform them of the conversation.

Third Grade: In our study of Greece and the founding of democracy, we discussed what democracy meant to the ancient Greeks, and who was left out of their definition such as women and certain social classes.

Fourth Grade: In fourth grade, we read aloud *The Cay* (pronounced Key) and discussed the themes of prejudice and bias and how they are inherent in all of us.

Fifth Grade: In fifth grade, we take into consideration varying perspectives in all our studies. For example, when we consider early American history, we think about the point of view of Native Americans, settlers, slaves, women, and the environment. We cultivate an ongoing dialogue about eq-

uity when we look at historical patterns of mistreatment and compare them to current issues. This is emulated on our election study. We studied the historical perspectives of women and African Americans and their violent struggle to gain the right to vote, and then we read a newspaper article about voting suppression on a current Native American reservation and the people from Colorado that were fighting against that suppression.

Winter Festival Fundraising Update and Congrats (Emily)

-Raised \$16k gross (\$3,200 in expenses) – net was slightly higher than last year

This Year: \$13,534

Last Year: \$12,694

-Community really showed up w/ market contributions

-Tanya wants to handle gift certificates a little differently next year.

-No Raffle b/c we didn't have a license.

-Sales of decorations are typically grouped into sales of market goods. Is there a way to keep it beautiful and have it be less stressful – maybe separate the decorations from the money-making aspect.

-Debrief meeting will take place next month, any thoughts, suggestions, or suggested changes that result as an outcome of that meeting will come back to Ed Council.

Tutor Update (Phil)

Tutor initiative is going great! They've hired one (Aga) who is focused on the younger grades. They've found another person as well, who has worked in middle school, upper elementary grades, and w/ challenging populations. They have math, reading and writing experience and came w/ great references! There will be training on literacy and math materials and a chance for teachers to start planning w/ Paras and Tutors. Two tutors for 18 hours each. Aga has already started. The other one will start in January. They are focusing most of their time on academic support. All

kids will have more adult time in the classroom, their time will come out to 45 minutes a day (4 days a week) per classroom of instruction time.

Funding is only through the end of the year. We'll need to reevaluate at the end of the year.

In general, Friday's are more flexible: more project-based; whole group focused and catching up time. Is there a need for more parent volunteers on Friday's?

Before Spring Break, Phil will know if the District is going to increase Para funding for schools for next year. At that time, Ed Council will need to revisit the budget and look at fundraising.

BCSIS has gone from 1.7 literacy and intervention support teacher time down to a 0.5 literacy person in the past seven years! The district provides more funds for programs and materials and less on licensed support teacher positions. There could be an expectation that at some schools, parent groups will fill in the gaps with parent donations. Can we communicate this when we ask parents to donate?

Phil thinks we need a sole person to meet w/him and the teachers to pull out this information and work on messaging.

At the next staff meeting, they will discuss training for parents to volunteer.

CAP update (Phil)

-Messaging has been included in both newsletter and separately. This is not the same parent evening as last Fall. There will be more detail about what's ahead, b/c CAP will be starting the following morning in the classrooms.

-Childcare – there won't be childcare at the school for the parent event. Issue was raised that this could potentially exclude single parents or other folks who will have a difficult time finding childcare to come to that evening.

Action Item: Emily will try to ask reps in the classroom to help coordinate a parent-to-parent/shared childcare effort.

-Parents do need to opt out their child if they don't want them to participate.

-The training will last for 1 hour and 15 minutes for each grade and will include one visit (two for kinder).

Open Enrollment (Jennifer/Phil)

-Change in format. In past years parents have led the tours. But this year, teachers are helping to lead the tours w/ parents. Messaging will be more consistent! Groups are now evenly divided.

Need: 2-3 parents; 2-3 teachers x 4 evenings

30-40 people attend each evening

Next year Jennifer will need a new crew of volunteers (b/c a lot of parent volunteers are graduating).

Brief Communication Update (Emily/Phil)

More communication plans coming. Streamline through the newsblast, etc... more strategic and make changes without dropping the ball.

Organizing Volunteers (Jenn)

Class rep is an Ed council member who solicits volunteers and communicates. Jen says that in getting volunteers it feels like badgering, needs clarification. Need better coordination about numbers on help at school.

Jill brought up that the school needs a manual, defined roles, etc...

Questions and Agenda topics for next month (All)

Clean the room up!

-School Professional Photographer (existing issues w/ receiving photos)

Next Ed Council Meeting:

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Upcoming Events:

4th/5th Winter Gathering

Dec 20 @ 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Winter Break

December 22nd-January 7th 2019