**Falcon Ridge Elementary School Community Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Via Zoom**

**November 18, 2020; 5:30 p.m.**

**In Attendance:**

**Principal/District:** Theresa Christensen, Cathy Ford

**Faculty Rep:** Joy Edman

**Community Members:** Laura McKee, Melina Huntsman, Karen Beebe, Jessica Brinton, Christopher Viehweger, Stephanie Morgan

**Not Present:** Oscar Mena, Misty Mena, Gordon Hayes

**Approval of Minutes:**

* The meeting minutes for the March 26, 2020 and September 16, 2020 meetings were presented for approval.
* A few items were discussed for follow-up purposes:
  + Roughly 60 Chromebooks needed to be replaced from last year’s virtual learning.
  + The Playworks program is off to a great start. Behavioral referrals arising during recess have been drastically reduced. Joy Edman discussed so many benefits for the program. She recommends implementing the full program if/when budgeting allows.
* ***Laura McKee made a motion to approve the minutes for the March meeting, Jessica Brinton seconded the motion. Laura McKee made a motion to approve the minutes for the September meeting, Melina Huntsman seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously to approve the minutes for both meetings.***

**Budget Discussion:**

* Theresa Christensen provided the Council with a spending summary for the current year-to-date.
* The expenditures as of 11/05/20 are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total Budget | $102,262 |
| Expenditures: |  |
| Assistants | 14,798 |
| Technology (chromebooks) | 20,114 |
| Supplies (Playworks, planners) | 11,281 |
| **Current Balance** | **$56,069** |
| Assistants (7 months estimated) | 47,000 |
| **Estimated Remaining Balance** | **$9,069** |

* Currently projecting $9,000 remaining in the budget. Questions were posed about what to do with the remaining funds. Should the budget be amended for other necessary expenses in the current plan year? Should the remainder be left to roll forward? The discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

**Internet Safety:**

* Netsmartz will start charging for assemblies.
* Brainpop. Digital Citizenship 4th – 6th. Brainpop Technology for younger grades. We have already paid for this; teachers can just facilitate the current programs.

**Safe Walking Plan:**

* Cathy Ford initiated a discussion on the current Safe Walking Plan. Do we need to update the map from last year? The Sommerglen Heights neighborhood has added one more street since the last plan was adopted.
* Action Item: Laura will send Cathy the most current map of the Sommerglen Heights neighborhood.
* Theresa brought forth the issue of blind spots (not visible on school cameras) on school property. There have been issues during contact tracing for possible COVID exp. The field and the stairs are a concern. Per approval by the council Theresa will add this as an item of concern with the District.
* Another current issue of concern is the amount of wasted space during morning student drop off. Drivers do not pull completely to the front of the line and some park for an extended period of time in the drop off lane with talking with their student. Teachers on duty may need to be more aggressive with the request for vehicles to keep moving forward and not linger. Signs outlining proper drop off procedures will also be added.

**School Behavior Plan:**

* As per the District approach, Falcon Ridge Elementary is moving away from punitive to restorative practices for behavioral incidents.
* Per the definition shared by Theresa: *Restorative practices represent a positive step forward in helping all students learn to resolve disagreements, take ownership of their behavior, and engage in acts of empathy and forgiveness.*
  + The focus is on relationships.
  + Change the interactions with students during and after incidents. A restorative approach creates a learning environment for students.
  + Repair more than punish.
  + Changing consequences to natural consequence. How do we repair the behavior? Ask the student what he or she thinks the consequence should be.
* The Behavior Team (Theresa, School Psychologist and 1 teacher from each grade/team) is being training with *Restorative Practices 101*. They will then train the rest of the faculty.
* Social Skills classes are offered (by referral) for students twice a week. So far, no students have needed to attend.
* Playworks has been a huge help as well. The structure at recess has eliminated most of the behavioral referrals that naturally occur during free play.

**2021-22 Trustlands Plan:**

* The 2020-21 goal is to improve student academic performance in reading and writing. 10% of students who are below grade level at the beginning of the year need to be on grade level by the end of the year. To achieve this goal the following was written into the plan:
  + Funding was approved to hire and pay the salary of 12 literacy paraprofessionals.
  + Professional development for Tier 1 instruction.
  + Chromebook provided for every student.
  + ESL endorsement for teachers.
  + Field Trips tied to core curriculum.
  + Planners supplied for students.

**2021-22 Trustlands Plan (cont…):**

* Laurie Murdock, instructional coach, is working with teacher-referred students from each class. Adding an instructional coach has already resulted in visible growth.
* So far virtual field trips have not had a cost associated.
* Acadience is being used for all students. The District provides this program for younger grades. Falcon Ridge Elementary has funded and extended this program for grades 4 through 6.
* The beginning of year Reading numbers are low. This is to be expected as it reflects the emergency education (due to COVID-19) at the end of last school year.
  + Kindergarten: 61% at grade level in fluency.
  + 1st Grade: 52% at grade level in fluency.
  + 2nd Grade: 53% at grade level in fluency.
  + 3rd Grade: 60% at grade level in fluency.
  + 4th Grade: 55% at grade level in fluency and 53% at grade level in accuracy.
  + 5th Grade: 53% at grade level in fluency and 55% at grade level in accuracy.
  + 6th Grade: 76% at grade level in fluency and 73% at grade level in accuracy.
* There is not currently any data to track growth in the area of Math.
* **The 2021-22 total amount allocated to Falcon Ridge Elementary will be $82,392**
* For the 2021-22 plan, Theresa would like to also add a goal of 10% growth in Math. This would be in addition to the Reading goal that has been set.
  + ST Math is a neurological based math program could help with this goal. ST Math is similar to Lexia (reading program). The pilot program is $3K per school if 3 schools sign up. Currently, JSD has one school utilizing the program. The total cost of the program is $12K per year. Theresa discussed applying for grants to assist with the expense. Laura also raised the possibility of the SCC providing the funding as well.
  + The SCC agreed that a Math goal will be a great addition to the plan.
* Action item: Theresa will put the new plan together based on the Reading and Math goals discussed and present it to the SCC for feedback.

**White Mitten/Inside Days:**

* Laura McKee raised the discussion of raising the temperature point for determining a White Mitten/Inside Day.
* The policy is currently 19 degrees or colder results in an inside day. The current policy uses a “feels like” approach rather than just the number.
* It seems like parents have the concerns more than the students. The students have not complained; however, given the option students in the lower grades would like to be inside and students in the upper grades want to be outside no matter what.
* Parents of students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade have voiced concerns to Laura. The temperature at the morning drop-off is the biggest concern.
* **The new policy will split the day into two decisions points:**
  + **At morning drop-off**: If the temperature FEELS LIKE 24 degrees or colder it will be deemed a White Mitten/Inside Day and the students will have the option (but will not be required) to enter the building upon arrival.
  + **At recess**: If the temperature FEELS LIKE 22 degrees or colder it will be deemed a White Mitten/Inside Day and the students will remain in the classroom during the time allotted for recess.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.**

**The next meeting TBD (January)**