



# **School Advisory Council**

Ellis Elementary School

December 17, 2024, 5:30 pm, Library

## **Participants**

Mary O'Gray, Paige Schupp, Sadaf Mustafa, Natalia Guardado, Kenneth Nixon, Neryann Rondon Tanya Woods, Andy Jacks, and Emily Taylor

## **Minutes**

### **PTO Update**

Movie night was a great event with good turnout. People loved the hot chocolate. Two more events could include BINGO, or possibly a Moana 2 showing later in the year. Dr. Jacks mentioned building up the event in the future. He emailed about the emergency LED lights to see if they can be dimmed for the future. Attendance may have been better if the weather had been nicer. To show a movie our school needs to buy a license to watch it. An RSVP was sent out. 130 people said they would be arriving. People could pay for food in the future. There were raffles that were fun! Have a monthly event that is consistent that kids look forward to.

### **Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will be on January 28, 2025-at 5:30 in the Ellis library.

### **IB PYP Policies Review**

The SAC looked at the IB Draft Inclusion Policy and offered feedback.

### **Vote on Bylaws**

All members voted unanimously to approve the bylaws.

### **Budget and CIP Update**

We will get the projected budget in February based on projected school enrollment. This year the budget is working out well. Some recent upgrades include school murals. We

bought carpets for each classroom. We are buying folding metal chairs on racks. This is a one-time purchase. Staff were asked what they wanted. Some items we can get for free like desks from other schools. Questions to consider if we want to make purchases to increase safety, like more fences by the playground or in front of the school. There will be more books bought for the library. Teachers are dedicated to what they do, and there are supplies that they request for their instruction. We review how each grade level is spending per grade level. Anything like tissues, the school can buy. New security cameras are being installed. We will preplan for next year. School uniforms are only allowed at the two Traditional Schools. Those are opt-in schools.

### **Superintendent's Advisory Council on Instruction (SACI) Update**

Kenneth Nixon needs another member to serve as a SACI backup. The meetings are two hours at a minimum. There is food provided. The focus has been on the Continuous Improvement Plan and having a high functioning School Advisory Council at each school. There was a good mix of people who have been on the SACI and new members including 80-90 parents. The goal is not to bring school specific items to be addressed, but what schools see as macro items that could be implemented within the strategic plan. The council is broken up into geographic sections. We are in the West. SACI has generated a lot of what the division works on as a part of the strategic planning process. There can be equity issues between the East and West and resource issues between schools which need to be mitigated to create equitable outcomes. SACI meets once every other month (six times a year). The SAC voted to appoint Neryann Rondon as the backup representative from Ellis to attend the SACI meetings.

### **Splitting 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes**

We are still looking for a teacher for a third classroom. A long-term substitute teacher could be utilized. The plan is to email fourth-grade parents this week that we are still trying to go forward with it. After winter break will be setting up a classroom.

### **Last Meeting Follow Up**

- Student T-shirts would be good to purchase for each student. We could partner with a business to sponsor the cost. Dr. Jacks created a new design for staff that could be used for student shirts also.
- Astronaut Costume-Nothing has been decided yet about a mascot costume. Ms. Schupp is going to dress up as the astronaut for different events. She has a costume.
- CIP Update will be at our next meeting.

### **Open Chair**

There are parents' concerns about the consistency of classroom papers being sent home weekly. Every student has a take-home folder that should be coming home on Fridays. We will talk with teachers about what needs to be sent home weekly with students.