



School Advisory Council

Ellis Elementary School

September 9, 2025, 5:30 pm, Library

Participants

Mary O'Gray, Paige Schuppin, Liora Speir, Kacey Keligan, Andy Jacks, and Emily Taylor

Minutes

PTO Update/First Meeting Update

The accreditation for the PTO is getting worked on. Targeted outreach could help build capacity. School events can be tied into parent-related meetings to encourage turnout and participation.

Future Meeting Dates

We will meet at least six times for the year:

- October 14
- January 13
- February 17
- March 24
- April 14
- May 12

New Members/Recruiting

It would be best to find one more grade level teacher and to have more parents. Teachers can reach out to parents to share the opportunity and get more parents involved.

Budget Update

PWCS budgets are pretty strong this year. There are different pockets of funds with 95% going to staffing. In our fixed budget, we receive money for positions. In the past funds were more reliant on how many students we have. This year there were many more fixed positions that do not depend on student numbers. By September 30, we may need to either not take the grant

money for reduced class size for kindergarten, or we may need to hire another kindergarten teacher. That would bring class sizes from 22/23 to 16/17.

Today we hired another VALLSS tutor. There are some positions still open, and people are being interviewed.

We can afford to hire recess monitors. Salaries are set aside including FICA and benefits. Teachers appreciate the extra time for meetings and planning time, that isn't them coming in early and staying late. We also hired an additional custodian.

We are spending money on kidney shaped tables, teacher chairs, and student seating. Some classrooms wanted wobbly seats for reading group tables.

To turn our chalkboards into whiteboards a master agreement needs to be signed with the company and that is a process that takes time. This is also the case with the company that does high quality playground painting.

Other budget items could include:

- Kagan timers-software program, and materials for class meeting,
- Kagan games book (Dr. Jacks has the book)
- Mural on the stage
- Full refresh of gym and cafeteria-maroon sound panels (big blue walls will be lighted)
- Sensory Room
- Autism program order to get many things we need
- Flooring is not a priority at this time because the building will undergo a remodel in the next five years.
- Installing new boards
- Custodial Supplies for the Year

CIP Update

Strategic Priorities (the practical side of the CIP)

- Instructional Excellence in Every Class, Every Day
- Targeted Student Supports
- Community-Based, Student-Centered Focus-Student Led Conferences
- Student and Family Agency

Core Extension Plan-clubs from next door like the Muslim Association have volunteer students coming on Wednesdays and National Honor Society students coming on Thursdays from Unity

Reed during 3rd and 4th grade Core Extension. They support students with math and literacy. Sports teams may read with kids and Teach for Tomorrow is doing targeted intervention, reading buddies, and other reading interventions.

SACI Update

Nyranne was a backup for last year-we will check in with her to see if she is able to be the SACI representative for Ellis.

Open Chair

- Mr. Kelican is working on Spirit Wear. Teachers could buy t-shirts for different events like pink out.

- Hispanic Heritage month celebration is on Oct. 1st
- Lotteria/Back to School Night-many events coming up in Sept.

- Tutoring 66 students signed up
- Clubs starting up
 - Basketball club will be starting in October\
 - A soccer club will be started with opportunities to have future games with other elementary schools nearby and support from student athletes from Unity Reed High School.
 - We can consider having an Ellis staff vs. Parents soccer game or similar