

**Minutes for Hayt Elementary School
Meeting of the Local School Council
December 1, 2020
7:00 PM**

1. Call meeting to order

- The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm

2. Roll Call

In Attendance

1. Daniel Gomez
2. Lori Garcia
3. Emma Healey
4. Art Arfa
5. Tomas Romano
6. Mark Smirl
7. Adelina Canez
8. Armand Esai
9. Yordanka Brunet -Late
10. Amparo Guerrero-Late

Absent:

1. Patricia Meagher
2. Patrick Corbett

3. Approval of Agenda

- Daniel Gomez states we can have no transfer of funds and it can be removed.
- Art Arfa moves to approve the agenda as modified and Mark Smirl seconds. **10-0-0**

4. Approve minutes from November 10th meeting

- Amparo Guerrero would like to make sure she is being addressed as either Ms. Guerrero or Amparo Guerrero throughout the meeting minutes.
- Art Arfa moves to approve the November meeting minutes as submitted with modifications and Mark Smirl seconds. Tomas Romano abstains. **9-0-1**

5. Principals Report

a. General Updates/CIWP

- Social Emotional support has been a huge focus in regards to students and families. The main emphasis has been on attendance. Home visits and connecting the family to resources so that they can get reconnected to the internet and rejoin school (at home).
- Counseling individual students with the assistance of Communities in Schools.
- Met with the Balanced Literacy team in order to provide professional guidance in terms of curriculum instruction in primary literacy.
- Worked with the network to perform in classroom (remote) pop-in observations visits. Mr. Gomez or Mr. Twomey then provide feedback to the teacher. This is ongoing on a weekly basis.
- 864 students enrolled
- Attendance is 95.29%
- Culture and climate team working on creative ways to engage students in regards to school and attendance.

- Ms. Lindgren is working with enrichment teachers to create individual learning plans for students 6-8th grade.
- Ms. Lindgren has also joined 8th grade classrooms to discuss the application process
- Parent teacher conferences had a 76% participation rate.
- Created an end of first quarter survey for parents and held two parents' meetings regarding the results.
- Large push for family income forms. Before the push they had received 60% back and were able to increase that to 88%.
- Organized the LSC elections
- State of the school address
- Family reading night
- Communities in Schools currently has 20 students enrolled in their program.
- Facilitating two 8th grade counseling groups, one 7th grade group and one 1st grade boys' group (virtually).
- 3 students have suffered loss and have been connected to Barr Harris grief counseling.
- Initiating Big Brothers Big Sisters program. There is currently only 1 student enrolled.
- Connected 2 families to financial assistance grants through Jackson Financial.
- Worked with refugee agency to help Hayt families provide the necessary documentation needed for green card applications.
- Worked with families to set up outside services in regards to food, child care, internet and healthcare.
- Shared the reopening plan for in person learning.

b. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

- The percentages didn't change however the numbers within the categories did change from last month's numbers.

c. School Budget

- Negatives
 - 23621.115.51300.290001.000575.2021
-\$25,856.99
Regular Position Pointer
 - 23621.115.57305.119027.000316.2021
-\$171.00
Hospitalization and Dental Insurance-Employer
- Glitch on page 9 for \$17,000.00. The money has already been used for Pre-K and is not available. They are working on removing this error.
- Instead of clearing the -\$25, 856.99 roughly \$20,000 was mistakenly added to the Commodities-Postage line. The financial support team will be correcting this mis transfer. The postage line should only contain \$500.00.

d. School Positions

- 3 Employees on leave and 1 special education vacancy.

Questions:

- Lori Garcia would like to know if there are any candidates for the Special Education open positions? They have had a retired teacher subbing in for Ms. Patel. They haven't been able to staff anyone for Ms. Holland and only 2 candidates have applied for the vacancy but one is looking for January employment and another is currently at another school and would need to do a transfer which wouldn't happen until February.

- Lori Garcia would like Mr. Gomez to expand on the Family Reading night. Mr. Gomez said that 7 or 8 teachers that read stories to students. This event was geared towards primary students and was organized by the Librarian, Ms. Chaloff.
- Amparo Guerrero would like to know what about the \$25,000.00 on page 13 (3rd line from the bottom). She would like to know what it was committed to? Mr. Gomez said that it is for Communities in Schools and was part of the Illinois Empowerment Grant.
- Lori Garcia would like to know if the LSC received information concerning the Illinois Empowerment Grant this school year? Mr. Gomez said he would have to look into the records.
- Adelina Canez would like to know the main reasons for enrollment decreasing. Mr. Gomez said that it is a district issue. Kindergarten and Pre -K enrollment suffered. Has been a trend in the city and the state.
- Adelina Canez would like to know about the response rate for parents with the end of the first quarter survey. Mr. Gomez believes that roughly 37 people responded to the survey. Many were quite satisfied with the way things are going.
- Adelina Canez would like to know if running the meetings by doing a survey beforehand and then presenting the results has been the most effective way to communicate with parents? Or if he has considered a free forum meeting where parents can bring their concerns directly to the meeting? Mr. Gomez says that he likes to give parents answers which is why he surveys them first. He feels that in a free forum he may not have answers for them. He also wants to give parents time to think about questions they may have.

6. School Website

- Continuing to update teacher biographies.
- The website is still a work in progress as they continue to refine and improve the website.

7. Re-Opening/ Transition Plan

- Shared the air quality results
 - The overall findings conclude that the school is acceptable for occupancy.
- On a daily basis parents and students will be asked to follow specific guidelines such as checking their temperature before coming to school, complete a CPS health screener, wearing a face mask, ect.
- Pre-K is scheduled to begin on January 11, 2021. Students will be attending 5 days a week.
- K-8 hybrid program is scheduled to beginning on February 1, 2021. Students will attend school in person 2 days a week and will do remote learning 3 days a week.

Questions:

- Lori Garcia would like to know if all the teachers are prepared and fully understand the detailed logistics of the plan? Tomas Romano said he was going to pose the same question to Mr. Gomez. Mr. Romano would like to know if there is a team of people that have been put together to drill down on the complex issues such as department schedules, special ed schedules, ect that are Hayt School specific. Mr. Gomez said there is not currently a team and they are still waiting on guidance from CPS, right now the focus is on Pre-K. They can start working on the logistics once they have more information from parents as well as the district.
- Lori Garcia said we had previously been advised at the beginning of the school year that there was a re-opening team of teachers working on this plan and she is concerned to hear there is no current team working on this in collaboration with Mr. Gomez. Mr. Gomez said he has been working the Pre-K teachers because that is who is coming in first.

- Yordanka Brunet would like to know when students when and will not be wearing their mask? Mr. Gomez said students will not be wearing a mask while eating and possibly when in PE. But he has to wait on guidance on that.
- Mark Smirl is surprised that school is even talking about reopening right now given the case numbers. Is the reason they aren't giving many answers is because the cases continue to grow? Mr. Gomez isn't sure why the district isn't giving more information. Mark Smirl would also like to know if a child is ill will they be released into the parent's care? Mr. Gomez said yes, they will stay in the care room until a parent comes to pick them up.
- Lori Garcia would like to know if Mr. Gomez would prefer for her to email him the other questions, she has regarding the re-opening plan? One of those questions being, why would a staff member be in the care room and not a nurse? Mr. Gomez said that she should email CPS instead.
- Armand Esai would like to know where the temperature check will occur? If it will occur at the door outside or in the classroom? Mr. Gomez said it would be done in the classroom if it gets backed up at the front door.
- Adelina Canez would like to know if students staying remote would have a teacher? Mr. Gomez said they would have a teacher but it might not be the same teacher.

8. Approvals

a. October Internal Accounts

- \$47,602.75
- Art Arfa moves to approve the internal accounts as submitted and Yordanka Brunet seconds. Amparo Guerrero Abstains. 9-0-1.

b. Transfer of Funds

- There are no transfers this month.

9. Public Comments (2 mins/person)

- Adelina Canez would like to thank everyone for their hard work on this. Would like to thank Mr. Gomez for having the parent meeting. She hopes that there will be a little bit more notice in the future. She is concerned that only 37 people responded to the survey. She is wondering if there is any way we can motivate them. She thinks having the survey be multiple choice would be easier for parents to fill out.
- Lori Garcia would like to say that she appreciates everyone's hard work. She would like to see more teacher input going forward. She believes we should have been more prepared for the reopening of the school because we have known about this since August. We should have had a team in place for this very conversation.
- Daniel Gomez said that he and his team are working very hard to provide a safe plan for everyone. There are things beyond his control that he cannot plan for. It is absurd to suggest that he can make a plan without the assistance and support of the district.

10. Agenda Items for next meeting (January 5th)

- School Website
- Reopening and Transition Plan
- LSC Election Results

11. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm. Art Arfa motions to adjourn and Yordanka Brunet seconds. 10-0-0.