

**Minutes for Hayt Elementary School  
Meeting of the Local School Council  
November 10, 2020  
7:00 PM**

**VIRTUAL**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

- Meeting was called to Order at

**2. Roll Call**

**In Attendance:**

1. Lori Garcia
2. Daniel Gomez
3. Emma Healey
4. Amparo Guerrero
5. Adelina Canez
6. Mark Smirl
7. Yordanka Brunet
8. Armand Esai
9. Patricia Meagher

**Absent:**

1. Tomas Romano
2. Art Arfa
3. Patrick Corbett

**3. Approval of Agenda**

- Mark Smirl moves to approve the agenda and Patricia Meagher seconds. 9-0-0

**4. Approve minutes from October 6, 2020 meeting**

- Amparo Guerrero moves to approve the October 6, 2020 meeting minutes and Mark Smirl seconds. 9-0-0

**5. Principal's Report**

**a. General Updates/CIWP**

- On site employee contracted COVID-19. This effected primarily the employees in the Office. Parents, teachers, students, the network and district have all been notified. A deep cleaning was done on the first floor of the new building.
- Grade level meetings to review the on-track/ off track report.
- Met with ILT October 26, 2020.
- Flex Day meeting discussing bilingual instruction.
- Performing remote pop- in observations alongside Mr. Twomey.
- Enrollment dropped to 865 students.
- 95.33% Attendance
- Held a mock election for students. Biden won by 89%
- Virtual patriot point drawings every Monday.
- Emailing 8<sup>th</sup> grade students regarding GO CPS and providing open house updates. Meeting individually with students and parents to assist with the application process. There are currently 71% activated and 44% with applications submitted.

- Working with the Pre-K team to see if it is feasible to return to in person learning. It is determined by the district.
- Book Character walk and wave on October 29, 2020. Roughly 100 students participated.
- Continuing to email families on a weekly basis.

**b. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)**

- 55% in 20% or less in least restrictive environment.
- 45% in 21%-60% in least restrictive environment.

**c. School Budget**

- Negatives
  - 23621.115.51300.290001.000575.2021  
-\$29,917.59  
Regular Position Pointer
  - 23621.115.51320.290001.0075.2021  
-\$1,222.76  
Bucket Position Pointer
  - 23621.115.57305.119027.000316.2021  
-\$171.00  
Hospitalization and Dental Insurance- Employer
  - 23621.115.57305.18006.000576.2021  
-\$318.00  
Hospitalization and Dental Insurance-Employer
  - 23621.353.51300.29001.494079.2021  
-\$584.08  
Regular Position Pointer
  - 23621.353.51330.290001.494079.2021  
-\$122.19  
Benefits Pointer

- Still trying to get the Pre-K money to offset the teacher assistant cost.

**d. School Positions**

- 2 special ed faculty on leave. This leaves us with 2 temporary positions available.
- 1 teacher vacancy.
- Applied for additional teacher in special ed and it was granted.

**Questions Regarding the Principals Report:**

- Adelina Canez is wondering if there is a best practices document circulating throughout the teachers about how to keep students engaged with remote learning and would also like to know if all teacher are participating in giving out Patriot Points?  
Mr. Gomez said that all teachers should be participating in filling out the spread sheet with their student's names and sending it in.  
Ms. Meagher said she is an 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and typically students up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade are excited patriot points.  
Mr. Gomez has suggested reaching out to her students' teacher to find out what incentives they are providing. They are always open to suggestions on how to motivate students during remote learning.

Mr. Sannito said each classroom is a bit different because every child is a little bit different. What motivates one doesn't necessarily motivate another child. But he tries a variety of things.

- Adelina Canez would also like to know if Mr. Gomez will be hosting any other parent meetings like he did at the beginning of the school year to see how things are going with families and remote learning.

Mr. Gomez said he was going to do one but we now have Parent Teacher Conferences coming up. He might be able to do one in the next couple of weeks.

Adelina Canez suggested dividing it up by grades levels.

- Lori Garcia said that remote learning has been a very trying time and a lot of parents would like to have a forum to get their voices heard. She would like this meeting to be prioritized for sooner rather than later.

Mr. Gomez said he will try to organize that. He said there is a lot going on and all parents are aware of the LSC meeting currently happening and they are always welcome to come and voice their concerns.

- Amparo Guerrero said they have been fielding a lot of phone calls in the front office. Parents are always welcome to call and voice their frustrations and Amparo and Ms. Reyes will do their best to get them the resources they need. But, the first step is talking to the teacher and trying to work with the teacher to resolve the issues.

- Lori Garcia would like to know about the self-referral forms for students. She would like to know if that is something that every student has been made aware of?

Mr. Gomez said that is Ms. Lindgrens office and it is a referral based on a parent/teacher/student reaching out to her.

## 6. School Website Update

- The website is still in development. They are still resolving typo's, uploading teacher pictures and bios.
- Letter to the community uploaded regarding the COVID 19 case.
- Uploaded parent teacher conference links.
- Lori Garcia asked about the LSC candidate videos being uploaded. Mr. Gomez has forwarded that to Ms. Cardona.
- Amparo Guerrero said that the candidate statements and videos are up but that the text small.
- Adelina Canez visited the school website multiple times within the past couple of weeks and it hasn't been working.
- Adelina Canez is wondering if there is going to be a direct link to contact staff under the directory.
- Mr. Gomez said that is part of what they have been working on. Mr. Gomez said he had a meeting with teachers last week and there is a lot of stress going on with all of the demands from the district and teaching in general.
- Ms. Meagher said she updated her bio but that it is not currently a big priority in the upper grades right now.
- Mr. Gomez is trying to make sure he is doing what he can to ease the stress on teachers.
- Adelina Canez understand the pressure teachers are under but is wondering if there is a way to have teachers email addresses on the website, in particular the enrichment teachers. She was having difficulty contacting the technology teacher regarding an issue.

- Mr. Gomez said he will see what he can do about getting emails posted. But you are also welcome to schedule a conference with any of the enrichment teachers in addition to your child's teacher for Report Card Pick Up Day.
- Adelina Canez said this was just a quick question she had and did not require a conference. She is just trying to think of ways that will not put pressure on teachers but also makes it possible for parents to be able to communicate with teachers easily.
- Amparo Guerrero said that they can definitely work with Ms. Cardona to get those emails up on the website. And if there are any other suggestions to let her know.
- Armand Esai has used his own children's logins to their email to gain access to the teachers when needed.
- Lori Garcia said that Mr. Gomez and Mr. Twomey sent out an email document at the beginning of the year containing contact information for teachers and staff. She said they should consider re circulating it with Report Card Pick Up coming up. She also stated that she had to request access to that document to receive the contact information.
- Mark Smirl would like to know if everyone is receiving the weekly summaries?
- Lori Garcia said that it is something you have to sign up for. There is a tech team put together by Mr. Gomez that can assist with that.
- Mr. Gomez said the expectation is that teachers communicate with families on a weekly basis.

#### **7. Space to Grow Update**

- We were not chosen for the Space to Grow Grant.
- Lori Garcia would like to know if they gave a reason for not being chosen.
- Mr. Gomez said she didn't provide any specifics aside from that they chose 5 other schools.
- Mr. Gomez expressed interested in applying for it in the future if possible.

#### **8. Approvals**

##### **a. September Internal Accounts**

\$47,602.75

- Two outstanding checks
  - 4/26/2018 Jones School Supply Co Inc \$84.15
  - 1/10/2020 Liesbeth Jozefzoon (Parent) \$31.98
- 17seconds. Amparo Guerrero abstains. 8-0-1

##### **b. Transfer of funds**

- **\$22,120.31**
  - \$1,222.76  
From: 54125-219005-000575  
To: 51320-290001-000575
  - \$20,397.55  
From:54125-219005-000575  
To: 51300-290001-000575

These transfers are to clear negatives in a bucket position pointer line and the regular position pointer line. These are required by the district and are no benefit to the school.

- \$500.00  
From: 54125-219005-000575  
To: 53510-111008-000575

This transfer is requested by the Principal to purchase postage needed for sending records requested by other school districts. The school and former students will benefit from this transfer.

- **\$17,000.00**

- \$17,000.00  
From 57940-119027-000316 (misc. Charges, pre-k instruction)  
To Position #602483

This transfer is to move funds from ma misc. charges, Pre-K line to supplement the cost of a teacher assistance position.

- **\$706.27**

- \$122.19  
From: 57940-888888-494079  
To: 51330-290001-494079
- \$584.08  
From: 57940-888888-494079  
To: 51300-290001-494079

These transfers are being requested by the Principal to clear a negative in the bucket position pointer line. This is required by the district and there is no benefit to the school.

- Lori Garcia would like to it clarified if we are moving funds for the Pre-K position for in person learning or if it is a virtual assistant.
- Daniel Gomez said that if school goes back to in person, we will need that person to cover teachers when they go on lunch.
- Lori Garcia would like to know if anyone else has any thoughts on moving the money based on it not being set in stone that Pre-K is in fact going back to in person learning during the second quarter.
- Armand Esai believes Mr. Gomez is operating under the constraints of the network. He believes it would be better to have that funding there, whether it opens up for Pre-K or not. He doesn't see a problem with it because it is something, we will most likely have to do down the road.
- Christopher Twomey said that the money is initially allocated at the beginning of the school year to cover lunches of Pre-K teachers. The money needs to be put into the budget line regardless of in person or not. In the ends that will free up funds elsewhere to be used for better purposes.
- Daniel Gomez said the other option is to put money into a bucket and hiring parents to come in and watch students during lunch. But using the teacher assistant is the best option.
- Armand Esai moves to approve the transfer of funds of \$22,120.31 and Mark Smirl Seconds. Amparo Guerrero abstains 8-0-1
- Armand Esai moves to approve the transfer of funds of \$17,000.00 and Amparo Guerrero seconds. 9-0-0
- Mark Smirl moves to approve the transfer of funds of \$706.27 and Yordanka Brunet seconds. Amparo Guerrero abstains 8-0-1

## **9. Public Comments (2 minutes/person)**

- Yordanka Brunet would like to recognize the teachers and all of their hard work. She feels her sons teachers are doing a great job motivating him. She thinks this is most likely occurring throughout the school. Her sons teacher has incorporated a few mins at the end of each lesson where the students can freely talk to each other.

- Mark Smirl would like to acknowledge Amparo Guerrero for all the hard work she is doing with the cross-country team.
- Amparo Guerrero said the cross-country season was very short, only lasting 2.5 weeks. The team qualified to go to the regional meet, where they placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. The students really enjoyed it and she was honored to be their coach.
- Carl Sannito wants to thank everyone, the parents for allowing the teachers to learn their new jobs as well as the office staff who have been a wonderful support. He is very appreciative to the administration for being responsive to the teachers needs as well. He hopes the parents are finding the teachers responsive to their needs.
- Lori Garcia thinks the virtual patriot points is great when it is being utilized. It is very important to keep kids motivated. The program works very well for primary students. She does not agree holding students accountable for having their cameras on as a measurement of their motivation. Not every child feels safe opening their home to the camera as their last safe space. Not every kid feels good being on camera. One of her kids loves being on camera and the other absolutely hates it and gets anxiety from it. She sees him losing motivation for school in general and it is not like him. She would like this to be taken into consideration. She would also like to thank Ms. Guerrero for getting cross-country going. Her children joined but unfortunately it didn't work out for them to stay involved. It has turned into a new family past time.
- Adelina Canez said that the walk and wave was a great success. She really enjoyed getting to see the Hayt community. Thank you for rescheduling that and putting it together. She hopes to see more events like that. She also enjoyed the presidential voting and her daughter felt great participating in it. She would like to advocate how hard remote learning has been for parents. It puts parents in a difficult position. Parents are not in charge in the classroom but they are still required to get their kids to sit, listen and do the work. She would like to emphasis that we need to communicate to parents and let them voice their concerns. She thinks that a parent meeting needs to happen sooner rather than later. She heard a great idea on NPR, of parents and community members calling up other families of the school to see how they are doing and see if they need anything. We need to establish the community in another way. She would like to remind the teachers and administration that teachers need to have expectations that are realistic of the students and families at this time.

#### **10. Agenda items for next meeting (December 1<sup>st</sup>)**

- None were added at this time.

#### **11. Adjournment**

- Mark Smirl moves to adjourn and Patricia Meagher seconds. 8:17pm 9-0-0