



Gorman Fort Banks | School Site Council Meeting

Date/Time: November 18, 2021

Minutes Recorded By: Taylor Murphy

Attendees

Present?	Name	Present?	Name	Present?	Name
✓	Ilene Pearson	✓	Crystal DeMayo	✓	Taylor Murphy
✓	Donna Cummings	x	Alexis McEvoy	✓	Danielle Tucker
✓	Mark McClelland	✓	Jason Wright	✓	Jenny Suttie
✓	Zachary Purinton				

Decisions

Description
Mrs. Pearson explained the roles of the two-year council member and co-chair. Mr. Purinton volunteered to serve as the co-chair and Mr. Wright volunteered to serve as the 2-year council member.
September minutes were approved as they were previously reviewed via e-mail by council members.
The council agreed to meet monthly on Zoom for the remainder of the year. The council decided on the following meeting dates: 12/16, 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, and 5/12.
The council agreed to continue the discussion of updating goals during the December meeting.

Updates

Topic	Description
2020-2021 School Improvement Plan Objective: High quality, rigorous instruction curriculum alignment	The site council discussed necessary updates in language used in this objective due to the current circumstances brought on by the interruption in learning due to the pandemic.

Discussion

Topic, Notes
<p><i>Objective: High quality, rigorous instruction and curriculum alignment</i> <i>Action: Expand and invest in programs and practices that provide authentic student-centered learning and include home accessibility features.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Pearson raised concerns about the language of action seven as twenty-three students is no longer a manageable number to meet the needs of students given circumstances of the past two years. Mrs. Pearson suggested the eighth first and second grade teacher remains necessary. Mr. Purinton asked for elaboration on the gaps students are left with and was given an update based on formal and informal school assessments and specific data provided by DIBELS and i-ready. With the enrollment increase this year, the eighth classroom teacher has still led to an average of 20-21 students per classroom in second grade and 18 in first grade. Ms. Suttie asked for clarification on the timeline of implementing this goal. Mrs. Pearson clarified that this is a goal that, if possible, would be carried out next year. Mr. Purinton asked for clarification on whether or not the additional teacher was made possible by COVID funds. Mrs. Pearson confirmed. Mrs. Pearson posed the issue of needing an additional reading specialist. Mrs. Tucker explained the role of the reading specialist and the current need for an additional specialist. Mrs. Tucker explained that reading specialist groups have expanded to 5-6 students per group and they are currently unable to service kindergarteners. Ms. Murphy added the fact that school-wide testing and data entry with only three reading specialists minimizes the time the specialists are able to see their groups. Mrs. Tucker advocated for an additional kindergarten teacher along with first and second. Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Tucker discussed the physical challenge of adding teachers given the limited number of classrooms, especially for kindergarten.



- All site council members agreed to rewriting the goal to include eight classroom teachers across all grades and an additional reading specialist.

Action: Improve use and increase efficiency of technology as an instructional tool that provides personalized learning experiences for students.

- Mrs. Pearson asked Mrs. Tucker to elaborate on the need for touch screen Chrome Books in kindergarten. Mrs. Tucker advocated for six touch screens per class in kindergarten. This number was established as kindergarten usually uses Chrome Books in small groups rather than whole group and the touch screens make them much more accessible for kindergarteners. Over the past several weeks, the school has already began switching out some first and second grade classrooms' touch screens in order to supply kindergarten with additional touch screens for the time being. Mrs. Pearson expressed that this would be a goal aiming to be met this year, but may roll into next year.
- Ms. Suttie inquired about the consistency and standardization of classroom communication throughout the school. Mrs. Pearson explained that thus far, administration has not required one method of communication be used across classrooms, but that she will pose this at the next staff meeting.
- Mr. Purinton inquired about the technology needs of the special education department. Mrs. DeMayo shared that the biggest need for special education was the interactive white boards and that they have been ordered and are on the way or at the school awaiting additional parts.