

Peruvian Park Elementary School Community Council
Minutes 18 November 2015

Present: Leslie Jewkes, Jessica Dalton, Melinda Morgan, Katherine Manousakis, Stacey Kratz, Carina Park (not a board member)

The minutes were approved with Leslie Jewkes making the motion and Melinda Morgan seconding the motion.

Leslie Jewkes gave the budget and financial report for the month.

- Funding for our learning interventionists is the highest expenditure.
- Teachers have been buying learning supplies, mostly math supplements, and that those supplies have mostly been purchased.
- Members discussed seeking grants to help cover extra costs not covered by the land trust monies.
- Ms. Jewkes said she would look into what is permissible as far as raising extra funds.
- Stacey Kratz said the school has rarely done fundraisers in the past since so many of the school's needs are covered by the PTA fundraiser, but that we have discussed doing a school fundraiser for things like a new marquee.
- Ms. Jewkes clarified that the school can do two fundraisers per year: one by the PTA and one by the school.
- Ms. Kratz said we also can get corporate sponsorships, hold spirit nights, etc., in addition to those fundraisers.
- Ms. Jewkes said, incidentally, that she is getting great reports on the performance and effectiveness of the new assistants and that our substitute funds are being utilized.

Ms. Jewkes gave a planned report on school attendance and disciplinary policies:

- Regarding attendance, Laura Baird, our new attendance secretary this year, is doing a great job working with our families on attendance and tardy issues.
- A class breakdown on tardies. Rather than counting based on total number of tardies, which would skew a class' results if one student had a large number of tardies, the school decided to report based on the percentage of students in each class who have less than three tardies.
- The percentages range from a high of 96%, with nine classes at 90% or above, to a low of 71%. There are eight classes with percentages ranging from 80-89%, and eight classes with percentages ranging from 71-79%.

Regarding discipline, Ms. Jewkes presented the school's policies for managing student behaviors.

- The policies focus on teachers doing everything they can to manage classrooms and other spaces in the school to minimize discipline problems through student engagement, strong relationships with students and clearly

defined expectations.

- The school's policies strive to provide an environment where students are educated and trained to manage their own behavior. Teaching interactions are the main component of student management.
- Once students are subject to discipline, they can receive in-class discipline, often delayed consequences that give both teacher and student time to think about the problem without overly disrupting classroom flow and learning.
- They also can receive "think time," either in their own classroom or in their teacher's "partner" classroom to help give the student and teacher a break from one another. Think time behaviors do not require administrator involvement and do not significantly violate others' rights., but parents will be notified.
- Partner class behaviors are behaviors that may violate others' rights or that are chronic behaviors.
- Immediate office referrals can occur for behaviors that violate our safe schools policy, that are illegal, that are chronic disruptive behaviors (after other protocols have been accomplished), that require administrator involvement or that put specific individuals at harm or at risk.
- The school tries to keep discipline logical and to avoid punitive actions towards students. In addition to our discipline policies, Peruvian Park strives through Panther Pride and other PBIS practices to recognize and reward students' positive behaviors.

Parent members said some educational efforts towards helping parents understand the school's policies for both positive AND negative behaviors would be helpful. Members discussed various formats and settings for those educational efforts to occur but took no formal action.

School poll being sent to families.

- Ms. Jewkes asked members to complete the survey and to encourage other parents to take it. The survey is anonymous.
- Early results indicated some areas of concern at school are Ms. Jewkes' accessibility and security at the school. Security issues are already in the process of being addressed and Peruvian Park is scheduled for an upgrade to our front entrance involving security doors being installed.

The SCC adjourned. Next meeting is Jan. 20 at 3:30 p.m.