

Fireweed Academy

Academic Policy Committee Approved Minutes

Sept 8, 2020 via ZOOM

Present: Bob Shavelson, Julie Engebretsen, Sam Kirby

Guests: FWA parent Justine Weitzman, FWA parent Meg Frost, FWA Secretary, Janet Bowen, FWA Principal Todd Hindman, KPBSD Board member Pattie Truesdell

There was a brief discussion regarding whether or not there was a quorum and per the APC bylaws, it was determine that there was, in fact, a quorum.

Public Comments: Justine and Meg are interested in joining the APC. Justine mentioned that this could be a good time to share with Families what the APC is doing and current APC members could clarify their goals for the school. Todd mentioned that strategic planning is a good time to do this.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: Julie Engebretsen moved to approve the August 2020 APC minutes, Bon Shavelson seconded and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Julie motioned to approve the September 8, 2020 agenda with amendments, Bob seconded and the motion passed. The gaming permit and community APC seats were added.

Motion: Julia moved to accept Justine Weitzman and Meg Frost as community members of the APC. Bob Seconded and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Admin Report

FY21 Enrollment:

FY21 Projected Enrollment: 117 Current Enrollment: 74

Enrollment: K (10), 1st (11), 2nd (13), 3rd (8), 4th (13), 5th (10), 6th (9)
K-6 (74), K-2 (34), 3-6 (40)

We Begin: There have been many changes and challenges to work through over the past month. Overall, I am pleased with the progress we have made in providing services to in-school and remote students.

Strategic Plan Development: I checked in with Susie Admuson last week. We will be available to facilitate the drafting of a new five year Strategic Plan, when we are ready to begin that process with a full APC.

AASB: I am still communicating with AASB in regards to enrollment reductions. Schools with large waiting lists have depleted their lists and while their enrollments numbers are low, schools without waitlist are experiencing much lower enrollment.

Charter School Coalition: I have e-mailed charter school principals from around the state in regards to funding for charter schools with drops in enrollment. I hope to form a coalition of charter schools to address the issue. I would like to begin by developing a resolution that could be passed by APCs, the followed up with legislative lobbying. Julie will draft a coalition proposal and send to Todd and Bob for comments.

In-School / Remote Learners: We are starting to see some remote learners transitioning to in-school learning.

Bob asked if there was talk about funding remaining the same as last year, regardless of enrollment and referred to Hold Harmless. The 20-day count starts October 28 and runs through October 23. If the district enrollment drops 5% or more, the hold harmless legislation means the funding for FY21 will be the formula from the October count +75% of lost

enrollment. This does not include students who left for connections, which is the KPBSD's homeschool program, it represents students who have left the district due to moving out of the area or enrolling in other state or private homeschool programs

Motion: Bob moved to appoint Julie to be the APC Chairperson, Justine seconds and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Principal Leadership plan: The plan was finalized in late May and Todd would like to revisit this in light of the current Covid19 situation. This will be on October agenda.

Current goals are:

- Vertical alignment of K-6 Curriculum
- Attendance of leaderships training

Gaming Permit:

Motion: Julia moved to dissolve Fireweed Academy's gaming permit, Megan seconds. Discussion: we can revisit this later if we want to reinstate the permit. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Discussion of APC: Meetings are typically the first Monday of the month-this can change based on the makeup of the APC. We still need a staff rep from BFW, typically a certified person but if a support person is interested, that would be great as well. Justine offered to help bring people together to get more participation. Justine suggested each APC member write a blurb about being on the APC to be used as we recruit parent participation. Justine will forward them to Janet to send to parents.

Final remarks:

Bob-Thanks to Julie for stepping up to Chair responsibilities, Good time for new members to join since strategic planning is coming up. Asked Todd to reach out to Susie Amundson regarding start up plans.

Julie- Interested in Strategic planning, she does this for the City of Homer as well.

Sam: excited to be here to offer the teachers perspective.

Meg: First meeting, soaking it all in!

Justine: Thanks everyone for being here. Glad to be part of providing education to our children.

Janet: I will APC notebooks ready for the new members.

Todd: Thanks everyone for joining, looking forward to the strategic planning.

Julie: Pleased to take on the role of Chair, she will provide agenda's Prior to the APC meetings, if you want subject on the agenda let her know 10 days ahead of time.

Patti Truesdell, KPBSD Board member joined at the end of the meeting. She is new to the school board and is a member of the Charter School Committee. She would like to attend our meetings, come down in person to meet us, see our school, learn more and support us when Covid19 allows. She is not sure who else is on the Charter School committee and what they do but will find out. Julie suggested we add board reports to agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm

The next APC meeting is via ZOOM at 4pm on October 5.

Submitted by Janet Bowen