

Fireweed Academy

Academic Policy Committee Minutes

December 7, 2020 Via ZOOM

Present: Megan Frost, Justine Weitzman, Sam Kirby, Julie Engebretsen, Stephanie Zuniga

Absent: Bob Shavelson, Emily Springer

Staff & Guests: Todd Hindman, FWA Principal, Janet Bowen, FWA Secretary

Public Comments: none

Approval of Agenda: Stephanie moved to approve the Nov 2, 2020 agenda, Sam seconded. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes: Sam moved to approve the Nov 2020 minutes, seconded by Justine and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Admin report: 12/7/20

FY21 Enrollment:

FY21 Projected Enrollment: 117

Current Enrollment: 86

Enrollment: K (13), 1st (12), 2nd (15), 3rd (8), 4th (14), 5th (12), 6th (12)

K-6 (86), K-2 (40), 3-6 (46)

Kindergarten is Back: The Kindergarten kids returned one week ago today. We had six students return in-person and added one more student today.

Janet's Retirement: As you are probably aware, Janet is retiring and her last day will be December 18.

New Secretary: Sharlyn Young has been hired as our new secretary.

Strategic Plan Development: Our follow up session to the original Strategic Plan workshops will be Friday, December 11th from 3 to 6 PM.

CARES ACT Funding: The four air purification units have arrived and are being used. I submitted the final paperwork to the City of Homer a couple of weeks ago.

KPBSD Return Plans: The school board is meeting today to discuss options for a return to school for all students. Plans are still fluid, with the ultimate goal of getting all students back in school.

LFW Lease: Bob and I met to discuss minor changes to the lease agreement. It will be shared, shortly.

Fireweed FY21 Budget: Last week, I sent an email to Elizabeth Hayes requesting a time to meet to discuss our budget. I assume that with tonight's KPBSD School Board meeting and with the budget revisions that normally occur around this she has not been able to reply back. I'll reach out to her later this week.

FY 21 Enrollment & FY22 Projection: On the 12th of November, I received a letter from Assistant Superintendent Dave Jones. The initial student count from the state indicated that the district had a decrease in enrollment of 817.365 students from its projection. Fireweed's projected enrollment was 117 and the student enrollment count came in at 86.375. For FY 22, the district agreed with my projection of 112 students. This year with COVID-19, the district will be revisiting all of the projected enrollments submitted by schools in late March or early April.

There is a school board meeting this evening. Up for discussion is bringing students back in to school during Covid19 red zones using AB scheduling.

End of Admin Report

Strategic Plan & Discussion: Once the strategic plan is in place, the APC needs to create/update APC goals for Fireweed. Moved to January agenda

Committee membership: moved to January APC agenda

Corvid 19 messaging: moved to January APC Agenda

Lease agreement: 8-10 minor changes will bring to January meeting for approval.

Enrollment period: Todd suggested we move the open enrollment time to be more in line with other schools.

Motion: Sam moved to change FWA open enrollment month to April, Meg seconded and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Principal Evaluations: Todd discussed the timeline for the principal evaluation. Goals will be worked on during the Dec 11 strategic planning follow-up session.

Jan-finalize evaluation, contract comes out in Late January

March-APC Priorities- initial discussion, Principal evaluation

Spring-APC discusses and finalizes its goals, use to develop principal's goals

May-Adoption of APC priorities

June/August-Principals Leadership plan developed

September-Leadership plan completed

Nov-parent and staff surveys, principals self -evaluation

Dec-APC Principal Summative Evaluation

KPBSD School Board Updates: none

Site Council Statement-Todd will take care of this.

Discussion/Comments: Justine asked if as a charter school community, are we able to make our own commitment to remain remote for a specific time? A discussion ensued about how remote learning is working for our families. Topics included alleviate the frequency of opening and closing schools, factors to be met for a safe return, consistency with information from teachers, increased flexibility in assignments and SeeSaw, and a parent survey.

Todd thinks we do not have the autonomy to remain 100% remote if the district is not. He feels the FWA community is strong in its belief in what we do in a no- Covid year, the majority of families will return.

Julie would like to see more dialog with parents, supports a survey. She welcomes emails with more thoughts about our immediate future. She brought up that our next APC meeting is January 4th and perhaps we should have a work session prior, or postpone the APC meeting. There was no decision made.

The strategic planning follow-up meeting is this Friday.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm. The next APC meeting will be Monday Jan 4, 2021 via ZOOM at 4pm

Submitted by Janet Bowen