

Fireweed Academy
Academic Policy Committee Minutes
May 3, 2021 via ZOOM

Present: Julie Engebretsen, Bob Shavelson, Sam Kirby, Stephanie Zuniga

Absent: Megan Frost, Emily Springer

Staff & Guests: Todd Hindman, FWA Principal, Sharlyn Young, FWA Secretary

Public Comments: none

Approval of Agenda: Bob moved to approve the agenda, Sam seconded. No objections or changes.

Approval of Minutes: Stephanie moved to approve the minutes, Sam seconded. No objections or changes.

Admin Report:

Admin Report 05/03/2021

FY21 Enrollment:

FY21 Projected Enrollment: 117 Current Enrollment: 93

In-School Enrollment: K (14), 1st (13), 2nd (15), 3rd (11), 4th (13), 5th (12), 6th (9)

K-6 (87), K-2 (42), 3-6 (45)

Remote Enrollment: K (0), 1st (1), 2nd (1), 3rd (0), 4th (0), 5th (1), 6th (3)

K-6 (6), K-2 (2), 3-6 (4)

Leadership Classes: I completed my second leadership class.

Enrollment Period: We completed our enrollment period for 2021-2022. As of Friday we have Intent to Enroll forms for K (11), 1st (15), 2nd (16), 3rd (14), 4th (11), 5th (13), 6th (14) for a total of 94

Letter of Support: I provided a letter of support for the City of Homer's RTP grant to improve accessibility and safety at Karen Hornaday Park, on behalf of Fireweed Academy.

6th Grade Day Trips: May 10th - 14th kayaking, SUP, Bike down the spit, pool party, and a day of art at Kiki's homestead.

Promotions: The 2nd grade promotion will be held at the Boat House on Friday, May 14th from Noon to 1 PM. The 6th grade promotion will be held at the Boat House on Monday, May 17th from 12:30 to 1:45.

Possible APU Partnership: I have contacted Janice Littlebear of the Teacher Certification program at Alaska Pacific University. I am hoping to develop a partnership with their Outdoor and Environmental Education Department to serve as a school to host student teachers.

Lease Agreement: Bob and I are meeting with Dave Richey this Wednesday to discuss a new lease agreement.

KPBSD School Board Visitors: Last Friday school board members Patty Truesdell and Mike Illg visited Little Fireweed for about 45 minutes in the afternoon.

END REPORT

Strategic Plan: Clarifying methods had no updates. Stephanie clarified by saying Kim sent a document with steps to take on how to move forward. It's a bit hard to move forward while we are in the middle of planning. Is there a time we can reconvene as a group? By laws/APC, Bob stated that he accidentally deleted his google doc with the information laid out. He discussed that they were making great headway defining policies. He feels that the APC needs to revise it's by laws. They primarily use the Parent Student Handbook to help set policy. Julie is part of group 3, communications. They have been waiting for one of the other groups to finish up before starting. They will probably pick up communications in the fall.

School Report Card: Due June 1st. This tracks attendance, enrollment, etc. Shows how well the school and it's students are doing.

Site Council Evaluation: Due June 2nd.

APC Next Year's Priorities: Julie expressed her idea for top priorities are completing the three sub area committees, boosting enrollment, and partnering with APU. Bob would like to button up the strategic plan, boost student enrollment; also expressed that physical space is always an issue. He would also like to partner with APU and that the outdoor pieces are especially great. Bob also added that he would like to address the internet and technology policy. Stephanie stated that for her the big one is using the strategic plan. She would love to have Suzie come back to show them how to use it as a tool for teaching staff and students, so they all say the same thing. Julie wondered if there was a way to hire Suzie sometime in August or September. Sam expressed a need to support new staff and make sure they know the Fireweed traditions and ways. Also, Sam stated the importance of academic paper and pencil education and not just outdoor education. Todd said that the strategic plan is number one, he is unsure what extra we can do to bolster enrollment. He will keep plugging away with Facebook and will advertise more in the paper when he and Sharlyn return in August.

Closing Comments: Stephanie expressed that it would be a good idea to come up with an action plan. Julie stated that Suzie could help facilitate what those should be. Bob agreed that it

is a good idea to have Suzie come back for a couple hour session. He asked about what Kagen is. Stephanie explained Kagen and ended with, It's all about engagement and how it works. Bob thinks Kagen is a wonderful selling point for our school. He wants to be more deliberate in what they say and how they say it. He would like to use infographics and Julie noted it for the communications committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:50pm
Minutes submitted by Sharlyn Young