



Paul Banks Elementary School

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

1340 East End Road – Homer, AK 99603 – (907) 226-1801

Principal, Sean Campbell

Paul Banks Elementary Site Council Meeting Minutes 10/4/2023 3:30-4:30 pm

I. Establish Quorum:

- Per bylaws, 4 members are required to establish a quorum
- Members present: Sean Campbell (principal), Rachel Lord (parent), Jeri McLean (community member), Sarah Jones (kindergarten teacher), Mandy Lehm (parent), Laurie Maples (special needs teacher), Jeanne Anderson (OT and parent), Katy Countiss (secretary)
 - Not present: Nurse Kim Kuklis
 - Visitor: Tim Dougherty (long time educator and school board member)

II. Review and Approve Agenda

Reviewed and Rachel Lord would like to add 2 things: 1) assessment communication & visuals (add to literacy section below) 2) have conversation about sub rate/percentage of occurrence (add to projects list)

Rachel Lord moved to add these items to the agenda. Jill Scalzi seconded.

III. Review and Approve Minutes

Rachel Lord moved to approve the minutes. Sarah Jones seconded.

IV. Principal's Report Picture of our preschool program- sit and eat together (Ahnvie Litecky our PTA president was subbing that day). Idea of family.

A. Highlights

- Outdoor classroom BBQ: 150 -200 estimated. Over \$600 raised with PTA raffle.
- Wild Shores Concert (conjunction with Bunnell Gallery) Chapman, Fireweed, McNeil students visited
- Ranger Kendra visited kindergarten classrooms "Being a Bald Eagle"
- Book mobile visit at recess
- Afterschool programs running through the PTA is going M-F and some days have two or three things going simultaneously
- Watching students develop as readers over the past 8 weeks has been delightful. Most important thing we can teach is how to read- foundational.

B. School Development Plan

We have completed the first assessment. Our plan continues from last year, and the next step is to look at results from the assessment. Will need to revise goals to reflect the new date. Last year's goal was to work to improve student scores below the 10th percentile.

C. Literacy

1. Alaska Read Act.- Mr. Campbell has been in communication with families to help explain the Alaska Reads act. Some families have expressed concern over the amount/frequency of testing. We have always had Winter & Spring benchmark testing. iRip (Individualized reading improvement plan) screening/testing is actually less frequent than what our intervention program has done in the past).

Discussion ensued about the new curriculum and testing details. ML mentioned that more information about the process, explanation of the terminology ahead of time would have been helpful. Discussions with teachers were helpful. Mr. Campbell sent out an email and there was a cover letter on the MClass results. We also discussed the process for testing and dates set by the state (testing window). The reason we have testing early in the year is to identify who needs intervention, as well as to create a baseline to compare against. Then the conversation moved to how the new curriculum is impacting teachers and the classroom - requiring more prep time for teachers, less opportunities for volunteers (whole groups instruction vs. small groups), slower paced teaching method (deeper understanding of concepts for all students, makes it more cohesive). One parent/member asked about how to meet all students' needs - boost (individualized computer program).

D. Family Engagement

- Volunteers: new curriculum is somewhat affecting the amount of volunteers, because of whole group instruction there are less opportunities for volunteers to help in the classroom (small groups, etc). Today kindergarten families came in to create cardboard violins, many people came in to help.
- Gear drive: brought in lots of gear, very successful. Letter went home with all families, so see who might need gear.
- Opportunities/ideas to increase volunteering opportunities: sign-up genius with a list of jobs, which could also include volunteers for field trips (school wide, doesn't have to be the same class).

V. Work on Goals

1.School Safety-

- KPBSD as a new system for families to call/text with concerns "Safe School Hotline"

- Update on security system: installed new door hardware, camera/intercom/card system is set up (waiting on licensing for camera)
- First A.L.I.C.E. drill with staff yesterday (no student involvement)
- First in-class drill will be coming up this month- a letter will be sent home (we will be doing the drill in conjunction with earthquake drill)

2. Family Engagement: create a parent/student handbook. Look at examples from other schools. Brainstorm what should be included.

VI. Frequency of substitutes

- RL brought up the topic of increasing numbers of substitutes (at PBE and WHE), which affects quality instruction, creating consistency and maintaining relationships with students.
- Conversion ensued about sub frequency, quality of subs, and sub coverage/shortages. Questions that arose during our discussion: Has there been an increase in the school district demand for training and other staff requirements to be gone (Union, Professional, etc.)? Is there a way to calculate the amount of time teachers are out for different kinds of leave (inservice, sick, maternity/paternity) by school? How could we get this data?

VII. Site Council Projects List (CIP- Capital Improvement List)

- A. RL brought up the idea of creating a Capital Improvement List for our school. It would help organize proposed projects and help to focus fundraising ideas. RL will create a doc/template that we can build on.

VIII. Upcoming Events

- A. October Reading Challenge All Month
- B. Friday 10/6, 10/20 & 11/3 K-9 Reading (troopers bring in dog and they read with each class).
- C. Tuesday 10/10: PTA Meeting @ 6:00 pm
- D. Wednesday 10/11: Spotlight Assembly
- E. Wednesday 10/11: Quarteto Nuevo Concert (other school invited McNeil)
- F. Wednesday 10/11 Spotlight Assembly
- G. Thursday 10/12 Early Release @ 1:00
- H. Friday 10/13: In-Service/End of Quarter
- I. Wednesday 10/25: Picture Retakes
- J. Thursday 10/26 & Friday 10/27: Parent/Teacher Conferences & Book Fair
- K. Tuesday 10/31 Halloween Parade

IX. Adjourn

Katy Countiss moved to adjourn. Jeri McLean seconded.