**Oriole Park Local School Council**

Minutes

March 1, 2021

Start time: 6:00 p.m.

**Virtual Meeting – Email** **triff@cps.edu** **for instructions and an invitation to attend.**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge
3. Roll Call
	* Present: Dove, Cheryl, Brian, Tim, Dani, Norm, Emily, Jessica, Bridget, Jenny, Donna, Pat Kelly
	* Absent: none
4. Approval of LSC Meeting Minutes From February 1, 2021
	* Motion to approve: Tim
	* Second: Norm
	* Roll call vote: unanimous decision to approve LSC minutes from February 1, 2021
5. Acceptance of Agenda
	* Motion to accept the agenda for today’s meeting: Emily
	* Second: Jenny
	* Roll call vote: Unanimous decision to accept agenda
6. Monthly Action Items
	* Fundraising Activities
		1. Foundation submitted a fundraising proposal for a virtual “bottles and brushes” social fundraiser that will raise several hundred dollars
		2. Fundraisers aren’t technically allowed right now but a lot of CPS schools are doing them, and we are really need the money because our budget is tight
		3. Bridget motions to approve the fundraising proposal from the Foundation.
		4. Donna seconds
		5. Roll call vote: unanimous decision to approve the Foundation fundraising proposal
	* Budget Transfers
		1. We are moving $10,000 for cadre substitutes.
		2. Question: will the $10,000 cover the length of the whole year for Cadres?
			1. No, it is estimated that it will last about a month.
		3. How many teachers are out? How many subs do we have/need?
			1. There are 9 teachers on leave…but this is constantly changing. Some are on leave until the end of the year, some only temporarily, some are still being approved. It’s a fluid situation, and we need coverage for each room. In some cases, “coverage” is a building (cadre) substitute. In other cases, the district is sending full time teachers.
			2. This is a BIG cost because we didn’t want to disrupt homerooms so we did the best we could to cover positions to keep homerooms intact.
		4. Is CPS going to start funding positions to cover people who need leaves?
			1. Yes. We got 4 additional positions at the beginning of the year (2 teachers). A week and a half ago, we got another teacher. We just applied for another teaching position, but we aren’t sure we will get it. They fund accommodations to some extent, but not entirely.
		5. Motion to accept budget transfers: Donna
		6. Second: Jenny
		7. Roll call: Unanimous decision to approve budget transfers.
	* Internal Accounts Approval
		1. Motion to approve internal accounts: Bridget
		2. Second: Mr. Kelly
		3. Roll call: Unanimous decision to approve internal accounts
7. Principal’s Report
	* Thank you for the donuts (Mr. Kelly dropped them off this morning) – they were from the LSC for the teachers!
	* CIWP priorities at the top of the Principal’s report
	* We have 440 students signed up for hybrid right now, and more people interested in coming back in-person soon.
	* 10 staff members with accommodations (9 teachers and 1 teacher assistant).
		1. Due to this, homerooms (3rd grade especially) and SPED teachers/assistants did change to accommodate the schedule and follow COVID protocols.
	* CPS has a COVID testing program. Staff members can opt in to a COVID test when randomly selected. Many teachers are taking advantage of this opportunity to prevent asymptomatic spread. Many teachers have also received at least one dose of the vaccine.
	* Student mental health is now being tracked across the grades so we can watch for kids who are having trouble in this area. We pass student referrals to the behavioral health team and they will brainstorm strategies to intervene. We understand this has been an extremely challenging time and mental health is suffering.
	* The behavioral health team organized a talking circle for the community. We don’t have a ton of people signed up now, but it’s really just a structured conversation and anyone is welcome.
	* Student council is back at work and planning spirit events/anti bullying campaign. They met with Mr. Riff this week. He meets with them once a month.
	* We are running into a budget crunch. Without OPS cares, we are really struggling. On a normal year, we could use OPS cares and student fees as spending money for the year (anything we are buying above and beyond our staff – books, interventionists, etc.) We haven’t collected as much in student fees this year, as we didn’t think it was appropriate to push this during the pandemic, but we really need this money. Once everyone is back in school, hopefully we can come up with a strategy to encourage people to pay their fees.
	* The foundation is planning two fundraisers to help us.
	* Our attendance remains really good.
	* Question: Is it mandatory that staff informs you whether or not they’ve been vaccinated?
		1. No- we sent out an anonymous survey to determine our vaccination status.
8. New Business
	* LSC Budget Letter to CPS, with the Ebinger LSC
		1. We’ve had a huge drop in enrollment. We are confident that we will get some kids back. However, normally on the 10th day of school, CPS takes a “snap shot” of enrollment and that number of students is used to determine the budget we get for the next year (certain amount of money per student). We would lose 3-4 teachers if this was the case this year. MANY other northwest side schools are in the same position. This letter encourages CPS to come up with a different system this year to take into account COVID related enrollment drops.
		2. Question: What day will be used to determine enrollment this year?
			1. As it stands now, it is still the 10th day, but we think CPS understands that this will be problematic (resulting in major budget drops for schools) and hopeful that they will make accommodations this year.
		3. Question: When will we know about the budget for next year?
			1. In the past several years, we have started the budget process in April. We aren’t sure when it will take place this year.
		4. Motion to sign the letter: Donna
		5. Second: Dove
		6. Roll call vote: unanimous decision to sign the letter.
			1. Mr. Riff is going to officially sign this letter for us, and will update us next month if there are any updates about this.
	* Oriole Park LSC Bylaws Amendment regarding committees
		1. Norm – with the proposed change, are we giving away the authority to control our own committees? If a situation came up where a committee wanted to put certain people on that we didn’t want, we wouldn’t be able to stop them.
		2. Mr. Riff: Should we add “pending LSC approval?”
		3. Norm indicates he thinks we need to add that it is pending LSC approval. We will be removing the equity committee when we make the formal change, since they are not a formal committee anymore.
		4. Norm is going to make the formal change and we will discuss it at the next meeting to make sure it is what we want. Then we will post it 7 days before the May meeting and officially approve it in May.
	* Principal Evaluation process
		1. Per Norm’s notes:
			1. April: Determine preliminary professional practice scores
			2. By May 1 – LSC gives a signed copy of the preliminary scores to Mr. Riff
			3. In May, set feedback session.
		2. Donna/Emily are going to look for the LSC surveys regarding the principal evaluation that we have sent out in the past. We want to look at the format to ensure they are user friendly, and hopefully this will boost community participation in the survey. Donna and Emily will send this to the LSC to look at so we can discuss at the April 7 meeting.
		3. By the end of April, we want to send the surveys to the parents/staff to gather data.
		4. We will then hold a special meeting in May to preliminarily assign scores for each competency.
9. Public Participation
10. Announcements
11. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
	* Principal evaluation
	* Review the Oriole Park LSC bylaws around committees.
12. Motion to adjourn
	* Motion: Donna
	* Second: Dove
	* Unanimous decision to adjourn