

Graham Middle School School Site Council (SSC) - MINUTES

Meeting Date: Apr 29, 2021

Meeting Time: 4:30 pm

Location: Virtual

Agenda

Time	Item	Person Responsible
4:30	Call the meeting to order ❖ Welcome & Roll Call	Chairperson
4:32	❖ Approval of Minutes from the March 25, 2021 SSC Meeting	Secretary
4:35	❖ SSC Bylaws Final Revisions & Vote	Chairperson
4:45	❖ Principal's Report	Interim Principal
5:00	❖ School Safety Plan - plans for revision	Chairperson
5:25	❖ Public Comments	Chairperson
5:30	❖ Adjournment	Chairperson

Attendance

Officers / Official Members	Guests	Absent
1. Judy Crates 2. Gina McIntyre 3. Hera Hong-Lee 4. Kathleen Cooper 5. Susan McDonald 6. Mark Martel 7. Susan Papson 8. Agnes Charrel-Berthillier 9. Mariko Kobata	Amanda Dittforth (staff)	Edgar Gomez Christine Salinas

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 4:34 by Hera.

Minutes from prior meeting approved as written

Revision of Bylaws

- Re: Quorum language (balance between parents and teachers and staff)
 - Question was raised what the balance wording meant exactly
 - Agnes supported removing the requirement for balance of parents/teachers/staff
 - Kathleen C. mentioned that if there were an important vote, and she were not able to be present, that she'd ensure an alternate representing classified staff would be present for it
 - No one was in favor of keeping language

Motion to approve the revised Bylaws as amended was unanimously approved

Principal's Update

Catch up learning:

- Biggest thing working on with staff is "learning recovery plan"
- Community meeting on Monday evening - 92 people - was great. Amazing number of comments, suggestions, and ideas.
- Also surveyed teachers and students to know what's challenging them, and what they'd like to do if they do need to catch up.
- Given choice of summer school, school during breaks, or staying after school; the consensus was staying after school among students, parents, and teachers.
- Plan is due tomorrow.
- Dr. Crates is working with Heidi Galassi, new Graham Principal, on the plan and will attend all important meetings, including staff meeting in May. She's focused on making this transition smooth.

Graduation:

- Thanks to PTA, a plan was approved by the district
- Working on a plan to include Zoomies

Science & learning materials:

- There are still science books on campus that should be discarded; along with tons of great new materials that are present, were going to be put into use in-class this year, but couldn't be used.
- Old materials will be stamped and discarded. Received approval from district to give them away.

- Everyone will get a book if they want it.
- Zoomies will have an option to pick one up

Photo day is next week, will be combined with other materials distribution:

- When you come to pick up science materials, get photos taken, and pick up a yard graduation celebration sign
- We'd like 8th graders to come for photos if at all possible, else fallback may be to send in photos or use 7th grade photos

Only 5 students reclassifying

- Last year, there was a huge push to reclassify students rather than keeping borderline students in English language learning track

How has academic progress been with distance learning?

- Been carefully analyzing data insights using latest iReady Reading & Math scores, in aggregate and all the way down to individual students
- Kids performing at/above grade level, and those at 1 level below grade level, have largely made anticipated progress from 2020-2021 (about 11-15% have gone down, the rest made expected progress or better)
- However, kids performing below grade level in 2020, an avg. of 49% fell further behind in Math and 39% fell further behind in Reading
- District-level support is being sought to help remediate
 - Current hypothesis is 1:1 or small-group (≤ 4) tutoring will be most effective at helping to bring people up
 - Certified teachers are most effective, peers are least effective, instructional aides are somewhere in between
 - Dr. Crates is working on getting multi-year funding to help provide the support needed; one year of funding most likely will not be enough to help with catch-up

For Social-Emotional learning, we know all kids have suffered to some degree in this past year of distance learning. Next year, we hope to focus on continuing to support recovery.

SSC Members: Send any additional questions to Dr Crates

Q. RTI was taken out this year. Will it come back?

- Yes next year, but not clear how.

Q. How many actual students were in Green/Yellow/Red buckets? How did these stats look the previous year longitudinally, at an individual student level?

- We don't know yet, more data at individual level would need to be observed.
- Lack of stable internet and connectivity is a bigger issue than most people realize. Students can learn if they can't get and stay online and engaged.

- Additionally, pandemic aside, there may need to be more emphasis put on math education at elementary school level to help bring students into 6th grade closer to grade level

School Safety Program

- Background: SSC was not previously aware that it needed a revision until 1 week before deadline. We submitted the plan as is, but it needs a major overhaul.
- Plan:
 - Begin by comparing to Crittenden and MV High School. All public safety plans are public, so should be online.
 - Then have parents rework the plan and bring back to SSC in September
 - Dr. Crates agrees with the approach
- Discussion: Is there any District template or updates provided? We'll check in with Nancy at the District office to see.

Meeting interrupted

Dr Crates departed the Zoom for another meeting at 5:19pm. Unfortunately, when she signed off, she accidentally terminated the SSC Zoom and we had to restart under a separate Zoom link.

Closing Business

- Have we been able to use all the money available to us? Need to reconnect with Deborah in the front office track spend.
- If there's anything left over, can we ask Dr. Crates to initiate spending
- Does it behoove us to hold elections this year?
 - Hera will ask new principal Heidi to invite volunteers to backfill two open parent slots
 - Holding elections this year would exclude new staff, teaches, and parents joining in the Fall
 - Kathy C. will be moving on next year, and is already beginning to recruit for a replacement

Meeting adjourned at 5:27pm