

# Meeting Minutes

## Springdale Park Elementary

Date: 09/14/21

Time: 6:00-7:00

Location: Zoom Video Conferencing Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83933143293?pwd=ZHM5YXVTSzUvakhxajZ5bzAwTjZ2dz09>

I. Call to order:

II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Terry Harness	Present
Parent/Guardian	Jenny Reiner	Present
Parent/Guardian	Honora Handley	Absent
Parent/Guardian	Sarah Caughron	Present
Instructional Staff	Jessica Correa	Present
Instructional Staff	Macey Howard	Present
Instructional Staff	Karina Canup	Present
Community Member	Brian Knight	Present
Community Member	Elise Blalock	Present
Swing Seat	Tony Kearney	Present
Student (High Schools)		

Guests: None

Quorum Established: [Yes]

III. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: [Brian Knight, D.C.]; Seconded by: Elise Blalock  
Members Approving: All Members  
Members Opposing: None  
Members Abstaining: None  
**Motion [Passes]**
- b. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** *List amendments to the minutes: None*  
Motion made by: Tony Kearney; Seconded by: Elise Blalock  
Members Approving: All Members  
Members Opposing: None  
Members Abstaining: None  
**Motion [Passes]**

## Meeting Minutes

- c. **Update the Norms. We will keep meetings to 1 hour, 40 minutes for discussion 20 minutes for public comment:** Motion made by: [Elise Blalock]; Seconded by: Karina Canup

### IV. Discussion Items:

- a. **Updated Norms:** Our goal is to keep our meetings at an hour max. All members agree. (40-45 minutes for discussion & 15-20 minutes for public comment)
- b. **Principal's Forum**
  - i. Harness: We are having school; the kids are doing great. They are super excited to be back in the building. They are doing well with mitigation strategies. We are reminding all kids and adults to maintain distance and wear masks.
  - ii. The district has now mandated that all staff participate with surveillance testing. Testing is every Tuesday (staff only) & Friday (students and staff).
  - iii. We have tested over 500 students; we want to still encourage families to provide consent.
  - iv. EIP (Early Intervention Program): The district has updated policies because the state shared a new protocol. The state shared new EIP models and removed the reduced class size EIP model (Spark uses this model the most. The district is still deciding what that will look like for Springdale Park. Tentatively we will have to change classes/teachers, nothing is official yet.
    - 1. Options: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade has 8 teachers, we felt that since this grade level had their kindergarten year interrupted, they needed the smaller classes. We may need to collapse a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. The teacher will possibly change to an EIP teacher that pushes in or pulls out EIP students.
    - 2. We found out September 9<sup>th</sup>, the state finalized the Law July 8<sup>th</sup>.
    - 3. We will need to get creative on how we will support students now that we will not be able to support students with the reduced class size model. (Expect changes to teachers & classes)
    - 4. In the past we have always chosen the reduced class model because it works well at SPARK, it allows us to earn more teachers so that we can continue support kids with smaller class sizes.
    - 5. This state change could cut our budget by 2/3. We will lose funding, lose teachers, and will need to change our current EIP models.

## Meeting Minutes

**c. Budget and Leveling**

- i. Harness: We were supposed to receive our budget and leveling today (September 14<sup>th</sup>) but it will now be coming to us on Friday September 17
- ii. We are currently at 719 students
- iii. We were projected 796 students
- iv. We are down 77 kids
- v. 1 kid=\$4,500 that we get towards our school budget
- vi.  $77 \times 4500 = 346,500$  we must give back to the district so they can reallocate to schools that might be over projected. (Hope Hill is the only school in our cluster right now that is over projected)
- vii. We did not reserve enough when budgeting last year, we have \$105,000 in reserves, we did not hire a 3<sup>rd</sup> EIP teacher to save money.
- viii. \$134,445 We still must figure out. (This equals 1.5 teachers)
- ix. We are not sure what the district has decided on leveling and funding.

**d. Cluster Update/Cluster Meeting**

- i. Today's meeting was an organizational meeting
- ii. We set the dates, calendar invites were sent by Jessica Correa

**e. Elis Training Procedures**

- i. Did everyone get the training procedures from the Go Team?
- ii. Email Go Team and they will reset the password for the portal.
- iii. You must take two classes, a training class, ethics class. Officers will take an additional officer class.
- iv. Employees already have a login

**f. Inman updates**

- i. Jenny met with a group of people about Inman
- ii. It has been suggested that the community continues to get together for a discussion about Inman thoughts and opinions.
- iii. Change will happen, not everyone will be happy
- iv. SPARK is losing most kids no matter what option is chosen apart from the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> academy.
- v. Jenny shared the SPARK dual campus idea. Jenny explained we would still have to redistrict the neighborhoods with the dual campus option. However, the students would be redistricted to a school familiar with

## Meeting Minutes

dual campus structures. 4/5 Academy would be a new concept never tried in the district. The district is used to dual campus structures and would know how to manage SPARK being a two-campus school.

**g. September 29<sup>th</sup> Community Meeting**

- i. The meeting is official it was discussed by the board. (more information to come) Please attend and share with the community. Share your voice and support the plan you feel is the best for kids.
- ii. Question: Is it possible that due to low enrollment will this plan be pushed back?
- iii. Question: Do we know how Morningside construction is on time? Are they tracking to be done before next school year?
- iv. SPARK Dual Campus allows the Virginia Highlands community to not be divided. It would allow all of the highlands to be in the same school.
- v. Brandon, Sara Smith, SPARK, & Jackson are all APS dual campuses. We have the infrastructure in place to make this happen.
- vi. SPARK would lose 50% of teachers, we should encourage the SPARK teacher community to plug in and attend these meetings and share what they think is best for the students they serve.
- vii. Question: Will teachers need to reapply if the dual campus is not an option?
- viii. Harness Response: When SPARK became SPARK, the Morningside teachers had to reapply at SPARK with the new principal. This is not an official plan from HR for the Inman transition.
- ix. According to the survey the community is overwhelmingly in support of a SPARK dual campus.

**h. Midtown signature program change to STEM/STEAM**

- i. The board meeting on Monday shared that the MIDTOWN cluster & Carver cluster will no longer be College and Career Readiness.
- ii. The principals are gravitating towards STEM but are not the final decision makers for the programming.
- iii. The community will be given a chance to provide feedback through cluster advisory meetings and other community meetings.
- iv. STEM is not official; this will be a community decision.
- v. Question: What are the thoughts of dual language programming for the Midtown cluster?
- vi. Dual Language is so wonderful, however it is difficult to staff, current teachers in the Midtown clusters would lose their job. The cluster would

## Meeting Minutes

have to consider materials resources, curriculum changes, teacher hires, & teacher loses.

**i. Crossing Guards at SPARK**

- i. Briarcliff is a very busy street.
- ii. COVID has increased our carpool numbers, however the buses are slowly filling back up.
- iii. Springdale does not pay for crossing guard (APS security pays for all guards)
- iv. There are not people applying to be a crossing guard, we have had volunteers. We could potentially get volunteers. Things to consider: (training, safety, and accountability)
- v. We no longer have a guard at Ponce. We have a bigger need at Ponce & Briarcliff as opposed to Briarcliff & St. Charles however not as many student's cross ponce.
- vi. We are still pushing for school zone stripes.
- vii. School zone lights do not always flash
- viii. Question: Who takes responsibility for Ponce? (Decatur, city of Atlanta, etc.)

**j. Cafeteria Staff**

- i. 3 Spark bus drivers are now cafeteria workers during the day
- ii. No longer need cafeteria volunteers
- iii. We have a new Cafeteria manager Ms. Evette

**V. Public Comment: None**

**VI. Adjournment**

Motion made by: Brian Knight, D.C. [Seconded by: Elise Blalock]

Members Approving: All Members in Favor

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

**Motion** [Passes]

**ADJOURNED AT: 6:52 pm**

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**Minutes Taken By: Jessica Correa**

**Position: Secretary**

**Date Approved:** [Insert Date the Minutes are **APPROVED** by the GO Team]