

Meeting Minutes

Springdale Park Elementary

Date: 05/13/2020

Time: 4:00-4:30

Location: Virtual Meeting via GoogleMeet

I. Call to order:

II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Terry Harness	Present
Parent/Guardian	Meredith Evans, Ph. D	Present
Parent/Guardian	Honora Handley	Present
Parent/Guardian	Cat Hoelker	Present
Instructional Staff	Nakia Bryant	Present
Instructional Staff	Nathan Stephenson	Present
Instructional Staff	Yolanda Windham, Ed.D	Present
Community Member	Brian Knight, D.C.	Present
Community Member	Elise Blalock	Present
Swing Seat	Abbie McCafferty	Absent
Student (High Schools)		

Quorum Established: [Yes]

III. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: [Cat Hoelker]; 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: [Cat Hoelker]; Seconded by: [Brian Knight, D.C.]
Members Approving: All Members
Members Opposing: None
Members Abstaining: None
Motion [Passes]

IV. Discussion Items

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- a. **Discussion Item 1:** District Budget Planning
The district had to cut 14% of its total budget. Therefore the district is asking individual schools to make cuts as well. The district also asked for schools to try to refrain from cutting any school positions.
- b. **Discussion Item 2:** Updated School Budget
The school is cutting \$204,945 based on meeting the district's guidance with budget adjustments. We will be adjusting the budget by cutting/reducing the following:
 - \$111,000 – Reserves
 - \$39,798 – Operating Budget (Teacher supplies, Media center budget, Mileage, Postage, Professional Development)
 - \$13,200 – Stipends for Teachers
 - \$11,610 – Cut Cafeteria monitors (2) positions
 - \$20,495 Reduce Substitute budget from 12 days allocated per teacher to 8.5 days per teacher
 - \$8,842 – Reduce Social Worker from 5 to 4 days a week

The following are comments/questions and responses between Mr. Harness and GOTeam Members:

- How will potential increased enrollment affect class size?
We are continuing to prioritize small class sizes and are currently looking at having around 20-22 students per class. However, if we do receive a large number of new students this will increase these numbers.
- Do you believe the cuts were equitable across the various schools?
I think so. In the Grady cluster it seemed comparable from one school to the next.
- Is this coming from the current administration, and if so, why now- when the tax revenue is paid for the year?
Yes. I think the district is trying to take into consideration the long term impact based on what economists are saying about a sharp decline ahead. The state is reducing the QBE by 14%. That translated to about a \$60 million from the district budget.

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- Given the pandemic, the substitution cost worries me- if sick, teachers will be out for more than 10 days? Could this be covered at the district or state level for sick leave?
If we begin virtually, which is an assumption at this point, we may not need subs if we can have kids pop in to other teacher's classes virtually. (Worst case scenario)
- I think it is reasonable to put teacher development funds on hold for a year. No one is traveling in the foreseeable future.
- With the savings from cancelling all APS summer programs (except Bridge, for now), were those 'savings' factored into this request? We were told those funds would be applied to next year's learning.
Yes, that's correct.
- Who pays for the cleaning budget and are there plans for increased cleanings?
The district is primarily responsible for this part of the budget. We will be following CDC guidance and best practices for cleaning.
- What are other schools doing regarding budget cuts?
Many schools are doing similar things: taking from their reserve funds, substitute budget, operating budgets.
- Is the district cutting their operating budget as well?
Yes. Central office is not filling certain positions and is also making other budget cuts.
- Will the district be opening schools for the fall since summer camps will be allowed?
Honestly, we don't know what's going to happen. We should know more soon. We continue to hear they are considering many options including starting the fall 100% virtually, utilizing some hybrid model, or having students return in the fall. We just don't know at this time.

V. Public Comment

The following are comments/questions and responses between Mr. Harness and members of the community in attendance.

Meghan McCloskey: What will do regarding lunch supervision since we will not be hiring two additional cafeteria monitors?

-This is more a logistics question and we are mainly focused on the budget in this conversation. However, we will make sure that we have the correct amount adult supervision and will make it work.

Stephanie Buzzell: How did the reserve get built up? Are other cuts being considered? Should we leave money in the reserves?

-The district automatically puts money in our budget and marks this as reserves. It's up to each school to decide how/when to spend this money. We made the decision to not use this money immediately. We did consider other budget cuts, but decided this was

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the best way to go forward. At this time we are not anticipating any additional budget cuts. However, if we needed to cut more we would consider additional cuts to the substitute budget and the operating budget.

Whitney Naman: We were planning on hiring new kindergarten teachers and paras as we've increased the number of classes. Is this still happening?

Yes. We're not making any changes in this regard.

Raquel Liberman: If staff needs PPE, who will pay?

-That's a great question. I'm confident if staff needs PPE we will have those necessary resources. Currently, the district is looking at using the CARE ACT funds to help with some things related to COVID-19 and as a school we will also probably be asking the PTO for help.

Whitney Naman: If in the long term we pivot to 100% online, will the district pay for online platforms (GoogleMeet) as it currently expires in the fall?

-Yes, the district will make sure we have the resources necessary for online learning.

Stephanie Buzzell: Is the district planning to provide PD to teachers on best practices for online instruction?

-We are very fortunate to having an amazing STEM coordinator at school who is providing excellent in house PDs with online instruction. Also, the district is making plans to provide valuable PDs appropriate to each school's needs.

Corryn Turpin: What can parents do to help offset cuts?

-Support the PTO! We are going to be relying on the PTO and appreciate all of the support.

VI. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Honora Handley]; Seconded by: [Cat Hoelker]

Members Approving: All Members in Favor

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining:

Motion [Passes]

ADJOURNED AT [4:40]

Minutes Taken By: Nathan Stephenson

Position: Secretary

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