

GO TEAMS

Meeting Minutes

Morningside Elementary GO Team Meeting

Date: August 16, 2017

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: MES Auditorium

6:00 – 6:05: Call to Order (6:04 p.m.)

Welcome: *Made by Chairperson, Debra Smearman*

Roll call: *Members present: Kelli Balloon, Marshall Norseng, Lauren Parkerson, Sarah Richards, Catalina Sibilsky, Debra Smearman, Audrey Sofianos, and Valerie Taylor (absent, Liz Davis and Karim Shariff)*

Determine quorum status: *A quorum was established with the members listed above.*

6:05 – 6:15: Public Comment: No public comment made.

6:15 – 6:25: Action Items:

Approval of Agenda: *Motion made by Marshall Norseng to add financial and facilities updates to the discussion items on the agenda. Motion was seconded by Sarah Richards and all members agreed.*

Approval of Minutes from May 10, 2017 Meeting: *A motion was made by Sarah Richards to amend the minutes to include that officers will stay in place this school year. The motion was seconded by Marshall Norseng and all members agreed.*

Fill Vacant Seats: *There are no vacant seats to fill at this time.*

6:25 – 6:45: Discussion Items

Financial Update: Mrs. Sofianos shared that there is an extra \$57,000 available in the budget. She shared that there is a need for furniture in the building from teacher desks and chairs to student tables and alternative working spaces. Other Grady Cluster schools have decided to give stipends to grade level chairs. Some other interest include hiring a parent liaisons or hourly paras to help cover recess. There were questions raised about the custodial staff and facilities being clean and operational. Faculty members shared that we need some help in the area of math support for students. Mrs. Sofianos shared that perhaps we could look into getting retired teachers to tutor students in math.

Facility Updates: The second phase of the HVAC updates were finished over the summer along with smaller repairs to the building, including the main entrance steps.

School Innovations Ideas:

Implementation- A motion was made by Marshall Norseng to have our Go Team Chairperson write a letter in support of creating a Kindergarten Annex and adjusting the school boundaries around new development. Sarah Richards, seconded the motion and all members agreed.

Committees (schedule meetings) – The committees that we implement should be created around our strategic plan. Family engagement is a mandatory committee that all GO Teams must have. The team will finalize the other committees and who will lead each one at the next meeting.

Review and Discuss Strategic Plan- The team reviewed the plan and talked about what we are doing currently as well as what we need to improve upon. We will continue to unpack the plan at future meetings.

Enrollment Numbers (preliminary) - Kindergarten at 168 (7 teachers), first grade at 163 (8 teachers), second grade at 163 (7 teachers), third grade (7 teachers) at 143, fourth at 151 (6 teachers), and fifth at 142 (6 teachers)

As a school, we are boy heavy, approximately 30 more boys than girls, school wide.

Milestone Test Results- *Recently, we've had an influx of ESOL students, many of whom were not able to meet expectations on the test, despite their overall growth since enrolling at MES. Our math scores have fallen across the board. We are still ranked number 5 overall in the district. Fourth grade seems to be the outlier when looking at grades 3 through 5 for the last few years.*

As a result of the testing discussion, questions were raised about the progression of homework and how to better remediate student deficits. We will continue to discuss these concerns and perhaps form a committee around these issues.

6:45 – 6:55: Public Comment: No public comment made.

6:55 – 7:00: Announcements and Adjournment: Marshall Norseng made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Kelli Balloon seconded the motion, and all members agreed.