

September 18, 2017  
Austin Elementary School  
School Council Meeting Minutes

School Council Members Present:

Ann Culbreath	Jenny Shulman
Christy Kramer	Amy Sand
Krystle Gardner	Callie Parker
Despina Lamas	Grant Turner

Visitors:

Janie Kossak	Angie Smith
Krissy Taylor	Angela Jackson
Nina Arnold	
Richard Boyd, Director of Design and Construction	
Jill Johnson, Economics Teacher at Riverwood	

8 Members were present.

**Call to Order**

**Recognition of Visitors**

**Approval of the Agenda**

Despina Lamas distributed the agenda posted pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. Moved, seconded, and carried that the school council approve the agenda presented.

**MOTION: Jenny Schulman SECOND: Amy Sand VOTE: Unanimous**

**Approval of the Minutes**

Despina Lamas distributed the minutes of the May 8, 2017 meeting of the School Council. Moved, seconded, and carried that the school council approve the minutes of the May 8, 2017 meeting.

**MOTION: Jenny Schulman SECOND: Callie Parker VOTE: Unanimous**

## **Austin Rebuild:**

The existing ball field must be demolished. 6-8 weeks to review and approve contracts in November and December. Completion date is estimated to be July 2019 (ready for first day of school August 2019).

He reviewed the site plan for the new building, physical placement, and interior layout. The building is designed for 900 students. Class sizes are: approximately 900 square feet for kindergarten and 1st and approximately 750 square feet for grades 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>. The entire building is handicap accessible.

He reviewed the security processes for the new building. He also gave details on the grade level placements (lower floor (1 & 2), main floor (Pre-K, K & 3), and upper floor (4&5)), plan for buses and parent drop offs, and potential interaction with nature center. The amphitheater and courtyard are completely enclosed. Mrs. Kossak asked about key card readers for entry at each external door.

There will also be additional parking worked in for the Dunwoody Nature Center. There are approximately 188 parking spaces planned. He also detailed what he has learned from working on other sites. More details were requested concerning security. Feedback from teachers was solicited. A discussion was held concerning mobile technology and possible storage solutions (a plan will need to be developed. Concerns were raised about sunlight and lunchroom vision obstruction. The playground plan was reviewed. Dr. Culbreath expressed concern about the closeness of the upper and lower playgrounds.

What can the school fundraise for (i.e. mechanical blinds, playground equipment, or furniture)?

Construction Advisory Committee (CAC) made up of 5 members. The CAC meets during the design and construction/procurement phases of building. They meet with the architect to review the design of the building. These will be updates that review the schedule and walk the building. They communicate this to Dr. Culbreath, who in turn conveys the concerns to the district.

Teachers need to purge furniture (will be in new school), and a moving company will help with move. Furniture (i.e., art tables and science tables) will be included.

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

## Enrollment/Attendance

Current enrollment is 643. After August 7<sup>th</sup>, 4 have withdrawn and 22 enrolled.

Pre-K: 22

K: 104

1<sup>st</sup>: 127

2<sup>nd</sup>: 121

3<sup>rd</sup>: 104

4<sup>th</sup>: 89

5<sup>th</sup>: 76

The team discussed the enrollment numbers for Kindergarten and the class sizes for gifted classes.

Number of Absences	Number of Students
15 or more absences	0
9 or more absences	1
7 or more absences	1
5 or more absences	95

420 absences

165 tardies

Due to Hurricane Irma, school was out for 4 days last week. The district has not yet decided how to make up the days. The decision will be communicated through an Eblast and Remind101 from Dr. Culbreath.

## PTO/Foundation Update

October 26-27 book fair, October 27 is Books Alive

School Supplies: looking for a sponsor so all students get an agenda and TIP folder, will be selling bag tags

Cultural Arts: met last week, Ann Reich, each grade level voted on what programs they would like

Spirit Night: first one done, Dunwoody Dash coming up and more time for registration

School Pictures: went well

Communication: going well, lunch bunch, media center mom

Room Moms: collecting donations online new process is going well

### **School Improvement Plan**

The schoolwide goals are more focused on growth in the areas of English Language Arts, Science, and Math. Discussion was also held on the structure of RTI with specific emphasis on Tier 2 and Tier 3. Kid Talks were also explained (monthly meetings with grade level and administration where teachers discuss the interventions used to help students).

Mrs. Amy Gamble was recently hired as a part time Literacy Coach. She trains teachers on the balanced literacy framework and provides reading instruction support to all staff members.

Parents are requesting Co-GAT test scores for gifted eligibility. These scores will be released once all testing is completed.

### **Advanced Content**

How is the delivery of advanced content being measured? Parents are concerned about advanced content delivery and project-based learning.

### **Developed Agenda**

Groundbreaking ceremony  
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

**MOTION: Jenny Schulman SECOND: Amy Sand VOTE: Unanimous**

**The next meeting of the Austin School Council will be November 13, 2017.**