

KGA Site Council
Meeting Minutes 9/24/18

Attendees: Yvonne Colland, Kelly Farrow, Bob Frame, Caitlin Holbrook, Jennifer Nusbaum, Beth Vogl, Lynn Weed, Tara Zichichi

Discussion

- 1) Minutes were accepted for the meeting held on September 10
- 2) Discussion held on meeting scheduled for site council, with agreement to meet monthly on Mondays from 4:00-5:30 on the following dates: 10/22, 11/19, 12/17, 1/28, 2/25, 4/1, 5/6
- 3) Tax Credit
 - Mrs. Weed distributed the letter that will be sent to KGA families encouraging them to make a tax credit donation
 - The funds raised by the tax credit support the field trips made by each grade:
 - K: Desert Botanical, Phoenix Zoo, Phoenix Children's Museum
 - 1st: Casa Grande ruins, Childsplay
 - 2nd: Herberger, Halle Heart Children's Museum, History Museum, Bodyology
 - 3rd: Kartchner Caverns, MIM
 - 4th: Heard Museum, Desert Outdoor Center
 - 5th: ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration
 - 6th: Biosphere
 - Youth Frontiers
 - Character Education including Be Kind
 - Very positive feedback on previous daylong sessions
 - Group supports continuing the program
 - Considering moving the day to 5th grade instead of 6th
 - After discussion, agreed to consider doing both 5th and 6th grade this year as a transition and then doing 5th grade going forward
 - Leadership Connection
 - Considering adding new program to focus on leadership skills
 - Mrs. Nusbaum and Ms. Holbrook would like to add program to support the work they are doing with Student Council
 - They have transformed the process of student council, including rethinking the election process
 - Recent elections generated significant enthusiasm from the candidates
 - Would like to engage Team Truth to deliver their Leadership Connection program to develop leadership skills for the students involved in student council
 - Group supports the program
 - Recommendation made to increase the parent outreach to encourage more tax credit donations
- 4) Global Studies
 - Mrs. Weed provided background on the Global Studies program
 - Replaced Mandarin which had a number of challenges
 - Dictated the specials schedule for students

- Large number of new students every year with no previous experience
- Teacher not familiar with gifted students and wanted to teach traditional style
- Behavioral issues in class
- Cannot learn Mandarin taking it every sixth day
- Significant feedback from parents on survey (17 pages)
- Didn't want to lose special so Global Studies was born; Mrs. Nusbaum, Mrs. Griffith, Ms. Davies and April Dailey collaborated to design the program

5) Survey

- Mrs. Weed distributed sample survey with feedback on questions
- Goal is to break down the survey into smaller sections and distribute smaller surveys to target populations
- Would like to survey more than once a year
- Site Council to review current survey before next meeting and come prepared with:
 - Comments on the survey
 - Cross out what we do not think is needed
 - Suggestions on how to segment the survey into groupings

6) Deep Equity

- Mrs. Weed distributed demographic information for KGA
- Deep Equity is a major focus for CUSD (inclusion/diversity)
 - Are we meeting the needs of all populations?
- Discussion on demographics
 - Given the significant difference in KGA demographics versus the District, inclusion and diversity will mean something different for KGA

7) Coming Events

- 9/28 Family Breakfast
 - Mrs. Weed hopes to have an announcement to make at the Breakfast
- 10/1-10/12 Fall Break
 - Teachers return 10/15-16 for Inservice
 - Students return 10/17
- 10/18 Gifted Parent's Meeting
 - 6-7pm Roundtable on communication and problem solving
- 7-7:30 Next step for CATS – information on Jr. High & HS