

ELPS District School Council Minutes

April 12, 2024

Noon

Held in person and via Zoom

In attendance: Dori Leyko, Amy Martin, Angela Michael, Rhiannon Worgess-Carveth, Jessica Eyde, Julie Tobin, Katie Hubbard

Called to order at 12:05

March Minutes approved; Angela motioned; Jessica seconded.

Administrative Update – Dori:

- It's important to get upcoming kindergartners registered as soon as possible so they will be on the mailing list for kindergarten roundup.
- Having some info sessions for the bond proposal in the May 7th election. These sessions are just to provide information and answer questions, not advocate for votes.
- Each school was asked this year to present at a school board meeting on the topic of their choice. They're all recorded and can be watched online. The middle school recently did a session on restorative justice; Donley did a session about their PBIS program, second step and their new book vending machine; Marble did a sessions about the educational justice assessment tool and exploring how to build community in schools.
- Lorraine Ware announced her retirement, so the district will be hiring a new elementary principal soon.

Dean of Student Success position – Amy:

- This is the best year so far in 9 years at the middle school. Have been able to focus more on principal work and less on behavior management than in previous years thanks to new positions and the dream team of Mr. White (Dean of Student Success), Mr. Wells (Student Advocate) and Ms. Addy (Restorative Justice Practitioner).
- The philosophy is to be proactive with student behavior and teach students how to handle conflicts. Part of their support has focused on providing intervention ahead of time instead of after a student is failing.
- This is Mr. White's first year in this role and students admire him as a leader and role model. He is able to be a friend but also hold students accountable for their behavior when they are sent to him. The center for student success is an in school suspension opportunity so that rather than being out of school for suspension, students can be doing restorative justice work with Mr. White and work on being accountable without being disenfranchised.
- One initiative he has brought is to look at students who are failing 2 or more classes and determine what additional help they may need. He brings them into "Mr. White's Club" where they can get the help they need. They have seen success with about 75% of them in improving and getting them on plans to support their learning and to prepare them for high school.
- Mr. White and Mr. Wells handle lunch times and use them to continue building relationships, doing things like singing contests and trivia contests.
- Having these positions that help middle schoolers work on handling their emotions and building relationships with them has helped make this a very positive year.

Building Updates:

- High School – Spring sports and activities have started. Graduation is May 30th. Working on end of year events planning.
- MacDonald – Last Activity Night of the year is 4/19 and 8th grade dance is in May. End of year field trips are coming up over the next few weeks.
- Green – no updates

- Red Cedar – Book Fair is next week with STEAM Night that Thursday, and Book Fair open for evening shopping. Also planning for teacher appreciation in May.
- Glencairn – no updates
- Donley – Had book bingo, auction and an author visit in March. Did a fundraiser with Launch that went pretty well, and was run similar to the Marco’s fundraisers. Wrapping up book fair this week and carnival is May 10.
- Marble – no updates
- Whitehills – Carnival is next Friday.

Next Meeting 5/10

Adjourn 12:52

Building Reps:

Donley	Julie Tobin
Glencairn	Erin Cazal
Green	Meghan Drouare
Marble	Jill Selke
Red Cedar	Linden Brown-Wren
Whitehills	Jessica Eyde
MacDonald	Rhiannon Worgess-Carveth
High School	Angela Michael