

Addison Elementary School Site Council

Thursday, May 22, 2014

3:00-5:00pm

SSC Members:

Cindy Ando

Jocelyn Garcia-Thome

Elizabeth Hofmann

Jackie Hurd

Molly Naughton

Peter Phillips

Bo Wingard

Kisa Young

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - At 3:10pm. Bo Wingard – absent. Jackie Hurd – absent.

2. Welcome to new members on Site Council. Discussion of transition in fall for new site council. Items that should be placed on first meeting agenda, unfinished business from this year. Items to emphasize with new SSC.
 - Kelli Tomlinson – new parent representative – in attendance
 - Pat Gibbs – new parent representative – not in attendance
 - Carol Miller – new teacher representative – not in attendance

3. Update from Jocelyn about staffing for next year.
 - SSC discussion thread around open staff slots being filled by Addison parents. Apparently, there have been some discussions around the optics of having aide & teacher positions filled by Addison parents – does a conflict of interest exist? Will difficulties arise in trying to manage yard duties, classroom duties vs. parent responsibilities?
 - Consensus of SSC seemed to be that having Addison parents fill vacant spots is a good thing. Parents will have a deeper vested interest, will be familiar with the community – of both parents and students, this will contribute to the strong sense of community at Addison. The strong feeling of community, of being a neighborhood school, is one of the things that sets Addison apart, and which should be maintained.
 - There was discussion of whether the hiring process should be communicated out to parents to ensure transparency and comfort level with the process. Do we need to explain, clarify the hiring process out to the broader parent community? For now, no...
 - Some schools apparently do have policies preventing parents of current students from applying to school positions. Does Addison have such a policy – no.
 - One last staffing discussion thread – there is no auto looping teacher assigned yet. Jocelyn felt the new principal should decide if / how the looping teacher will be identified / assigned.

4. Contact SSC members for information regarding how surveys have been conducted at their sites, and how we should begin this process in the fall. (Assign responsibility to contact in fall)
 - Jocelyn indicated we should take a look at the Hoover site survey, and the Nixon site survey
 - We'll have to decide whether to use the District site survey, or create a site-specific survey.
 - This will be an agenda item for one of the early Fall meetings

5. Any updates about superintendent search process? (Jocelyn?)
 - Jocelyn thought a communication would be forthcoming in a day or two.
 - Yes – Wilmette school district (Chicago)

6. Focus on arts for fall- consider lower grade art enrichment programs such as Theater works, Art day/ display in MP room, lower- grade music (concerts, talent show, other opportunities to be on stage or perform?)
 - There seemed to be general enthusiasm for and agreement that additional arts related events and activities – especially at the K-2 grade levels – would be beneficial
 - SSC members liked the idea of an Art Show – staged in the MP room, an evening event, perhaps organized in collaboration with Spectra Art, collaboration with Marci Lamb
 - Need to do a pulse check with the teachers in the Fall to gauge their interest and commitment to additional arts enrichment activities
 - Then need to identify parent volunteers to help organize, manage, etc.
 - There are apparently other arts related events that are recurring or cyclical – Theater Works play, classroom rotations – would be useful to highlight or list

7. Optional Classroom Parent Input forms- use in grade levels, consistency across grades, is revision needed? Teacher input appreciated!
 - Specific SSC action items on this topic:
 - Revisit questions with the help of teachers to assess usefulness – are there questions missing? Do questions need to be revised?
 - Change the submission date to Spring Break timeframe – i.e., move to earlier in the school year to ensure teachers can review and use in class placement discussions
 - Communicate in the Addison Advisor to the parents 1) the purpose of the optional parent input form, 2) the process by which class placements are determined, and 3) highlight the new submission date

8. Thank you to Jocelyn, Jackie, Bo and Peter.

9. Adjourn – 4:40pm