



## Fernbank Elementary Principal Advisory Council

### Meeting Notes

Date: May 10, 2022  
Time: 3pm  
Location: TEAMS Virtual Meeting

Attendees:	Non-Attendance:
Joan Ray, Principal	Rod Eggleston
Steve Langdon	Becky Vaughn, Teacher
Jessica Raper	
Alison Eber	
Khalia Williams	
Josh Bornstein	
Keagan Russo	
Ruth Haas, Teacher	
Christina Heda, Teacher	
Jessica Russo, PTA	

#### 00 – Welcome

- Approval of Agenda
- Motion: Alison Eber 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Raper,
- Vote: 10-0 **Approved**

#### 01 – PAC Items

- PAC Self-Assessment
  - o DeKalb forwarded a link to all PAC members to complete the yearly PAC Self-Assessment. All to complete by May 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - o **ACTION:** All to follow link and complete PAC Self-Assessment
- Enrollment Drive / Outreach
  - o Kindergarten Round-Up and Middle School tours have been completed and were well attended and very well received.
  - o Fernbank alumni that are current High School Seniors visited Fernbank representing their selected colleges. They met with 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Was a great event and all agreed this should be done at all Cluster elementary schools every spring.
  - o **ACTION:** All to continue to promote Fernbank and DH Cluster schools.

#### 02 – Principal Report

- COVID Protocols
  - o Mask Policy Update
    - No change since early March mask mandate cancellation.
    - Administrators at other schools have been encouraging masks when cases recently increased after prom.
  - o Surveillance Testing
    - Surveillance testing ongoing and while the timeliness of the results has improved since our last discussion in March, quicker responses would be more beneficial. The testing agency had committed to quicker responses.
    - School administrations have to email the company to receive the reports, so timely notification is an issue.
- CSIP Review

- CSIP
  - 3 areas of focus for 2021-2022 school year were Social Emotional Learning, Literacy and Numeracy.
  - Social Emotional Learning – Denise Spear has wrapped up the “Lunch Bunch” program with select students and the program was a huge hit among the student participants. All recommended that options be reviewed to continue the program next year.
  - Next year 2022-2023 CSIP will be on School Climate and Culture, which focuses on Restorative Justice and DEI (Diversity Equity and Inclusion). Plan for nonbiased training with a summer book study and research to support gender identity issues with students next year.
  - Ms. Solomon will be the ELA teacher next year
  - Teachers will receive Orton-Gillingham training to help them better identify dyslexia earlier than 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- Parent Volunteers
  - Parent volunteers are working well in the school using safe COVID protocols.
  - Parent volunteers helped to make teacher appreciation week activities more equitable experience for both teachers, staff, and students (e.g. gave every student flowers to give to their teachers in case they forgot it was flower day, etc.)

### 03 – Students and Teachers

- MAP Testing
  - Spring MAP testing is nearly complete. Teachers and Administrators have been pleased with the students’ performance and diligence dealing with the testing requirements.
- Milestones Testing
  - Milestones are complete with the exception of makeup testing
  - ~81.2% of 5<sup>th</sup> graders passed ELA and ~80% passed Math
  - ~93% of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders passed Math
  - There are no plans to measure progress on the Milestones since the test wasn’t administered last year and many students do not have a prior test for comparison
- School Nurse Support
  - Discussion was held regarding protocol expectations and additional support for the school nurse. Ms. Ray to review and PAC to continue discussion.
- Summer School
  - DCSD has confirmed the Summer Scholars Academy will be offered this summer to all interested Fernbank families. However, based on the number of students that have enrolled to date, currently DCSD is planning to host the program at Henderson Mill Elementary. Participating Fernbank students will need to have their own transportation to and from Henderson Mill.

### 04 – DeKalb County School District / Region 2

- Druid Hills Cluster Alliance – Mon June 27<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm
  - With the school year wrapping up this month, the Cluster Alliance will skip a May meeting and the next scheduled meeting is June 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Comprehensive Master Plan / Druid Hills High School Renovation
    - DHHS Modernization continues to be the priority for the DHCA. Parents and HS students continue to speak at the monthly Board meetings urging the Board to move forward with the recommendations of the CMP including a \$50-60 million modernization of the oldest school building in DCSD.
  - Several Cluster schools are scheduled to receive summer renovations/upgrades of roofing and HVAC equipment.

- **ACTION:** Steve Langdon to forward invitation to virtual meeting to all PAC members once published in late June.
- Red Devil Task Force – Mon May 16<sup>th</sup> 7pm
  - DHHS PTO has created a Task Force to focus on bringing awareness to the facility issues at the HS with the goal of getting a significant capital investment of the DCSD Board to Modernize DHHS.
  - The Task Force has a website, an email list and social media pages. There are several volunteer opportunities, and all PAC members are encouraged to review and share.
  - Even if the Task Force is successful in getting Board approval of SPLOST funds for a significant modernization of DHHS, the project will likely take several years to come to fruition. Therefore, elementary-aged students will be the beneficiaries of these renovations at DHHS and we encourage parents to support the Red Devil Task Force efforts.
    - **ACTION:** Steve Langdon to forward invitation to future Red Devil Task Force Meetings to all PAC members

#### 05 – Facility Items

- Fernbank has several current facility needs. Most of these have been submitted for repairs via DCSD work orders. Steve Langdon has emailed Trenton Arnold requesting an update on these open issues.
  - Additional mulch needed for the playground for both fall protection and mud prevention
    - The Fernbank Foundation is moving forward with funding the purchase of additional mulch due to the lack of a timely response from the District.
  - Elevator controller is not functioning due to low hydraulic fluid alarm
    - Service has been done and the elevator is currently working.
  - HVAC heating and cooling controls continue to have issues
    - No update.
  - Marquee sign has several lights out
    - Service order has been made for repairs
  - Slides on the playground are broken
    - A service technician visited and reviewed the issues, but no timeline was given for the repair/replacement.
  - **ACTION:** Steve Langdon to continue to discuss with Trenton Arnold

#### 06 – PTA and Foundation Update

- Shade Structures
  - The DCSD Board approved the Foundation donation to add shade structures in May Board meeting. The Foundation is authorizing the contractor to complete the work. The goal is to have the work complete prior this summer to the start of the '22-23 school year.
- End of Year Events
  - Class parties are scheduled for next week.
  - Student classroom awards will take place virtually. Teachers will be sending Zoom links to parents.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Walk is scheduled for the 5/19.

Next Meeting: TBD August 2022.

[End of Minutes]