

Hollinger K-8 School Council

Minutes 2023-2024

Meeting Date April 30th, 2024, Meeting Location: Zoom

Members present	Ericka Lopez, Stefani Novak, Denisse Nora Vergara, Chris Jackson, Claudia Jiménez, Marlene Martínez Lopez, Sandra Ortiz, Luz Bustillos, Patricia Martan, Catherine Arnquist-Burke
Members absent	Sandra Casillas
Constituency group represented	Parents, Teachers, and Staff

Called to order at 4:35 by Ericka Lopez

II. Approval of Minutes for April

DISCUSSION NOTES	Motion of Approval: Claudia JImenez Second: Stefanie Mares Novak
CONCLUSIONS	Motion to vote: Unanimous
ACTION ITEMS	

III. Call to the audience

DISCUSSION NOTES	
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	

IV. Reports

REPORTS TO REVIEW	Principal, Parent group
DISCUSSION	Principal: The principal expresses gratitude to the parent group and attendees of the spring play.
	- Highlights the importance of creating a happy and community-centered school environment.
	- Emphasizes the value of learning, community, and togetherness.
	Discuss the End of the Year and Plans for the next school year.
	I enjoyed the previous events and want to thank everyone involved.
	- The year is not over yet and there's much to wrap up.



- Focusing on using data to drive learning and improving teaching methods.

Implementing RTI and PLC for Educational Improvement

- Introduction of RTI (Response to Intervention) and PLC (Professional Learning Community) to enhance data-driven interventions and improve student learning.
- Gradual implementation approach to ensure effective integration without overwhelming educators.
- Master schedule adjustment to accommodate new initiatives and enhance educational outcomes.

Revamping Middle School Education

- Introducing a dedicated intervention period for all grade levels.
- Implementing a self-contained Gen. Ed model in middle school, focusing on student ownership of learning.

Classroom and Class Size Management

- Classroom size will be manageable for students to learn effectively.
- Information about teachers and class assignments will be shared in the fall.
- Aiming to create an environment that supports learning and growth.

Family Partnership Meetings for Student Success

- Family partnership meetings involve teachers, parents, and students working together to enhance learning.
- Learning is viewed as three overlapping spheres: school, students, and parents/families.
- The goal is to optimize each sphere's contribution for the child's maximum potential.

Enhancing Education through Collaborative Leadership

- Hollinger's master schedule, staffing, planning, and professional development are being improved.
- The goal is to build leadership and benefit students.

Parent group:

Skate Country Fundraiser Event

- Fundraiser event at Skate Country in Tucson at 6 pm.
- Open to all, aiming for a large turnout.

The previous event, Spring Fling Carnival, raised \$1754 profit.

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	School Updates: Spirit Fridays, Movie Nights, and Literacy Workshops - Restocked shirts due to high demand, aiming to distribute before the school year ends Obtained movie license for movie nights and educational workshops next year Literacy workshops planned in collaboration with student counselors. School Events and Activities - Dia de las Madren on May 10th - Mariachi performance on May 13th and teacher appreciation week from May 13th to 17th Different events and spirit week for students to show appreciation for teachers Eighth-grade promotion ceremony at the end of the year.
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	

V. Action Items

ITEM TITLE	Clear Backpacks
DISCUSSION NOTES	We have to guest speaker to talk about clear backpacks and safety for school. Mr. Martin - Safety School Officer Ensuring School Safety - Discussion about ensuring school safety Creating a warm and safe environment for students The principal can provide more insights on safety measures. Ms. Alma Carmona CE Rose Principal - Implementing Clear Backpacks in Schools - Clear backpacks were introduced to address concerns about students bringing inappropriate items and losing valuables The decision was made after discussions with the school council and families The advantages and disadvantages of clear backpacks are being evaluated. New School Policy on Clear Backpacks - The school council decided to implement a new policy requiring students to use clear backpacks Parents were notified about the policy in April through letters and emails Some parents were unaware of the policy, possibly due to not reading emails or missing information. Backpacks for Students and Teachers - Purchased backpacks online and sold them during registrations Used backpacks for Meat and Green for teachers and Ice cream social Donated backpacks to families in need. Clear Backpack Policy in Schools

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- Clear backpacks help deter students from bringing prohibited items, but they are less durable and break easily.
- Parents may need to repurchase backpacks or use materials provided by the school.
- The policy requires students to use clear backpacks to increase visibility and prevent students from bringing prohibited items. School's Clear Backpack Policy
- Girls are allowed to carry small bags or makeup purses in their backpacks.
- The school has a clear backpack policy and parents are informed about it during registration.
- Students are also allowed to carry their sports gear in their backpacks. School's Backpack Policy and Parent Group's Role
- The school implemented a backpack policy to reduce the number of items students bring to school.
- Sports bags are collected in a designated area to avoid carrying them around.
- The parent group purchased and sold backpacks to families, potentially at a discounted price.

Fundraising for Backpacks

- Backpacks were purchased online for students.
- The cost of the backpacks was covered by a fundraiser.
- Some families received donated backpacks due to financial need. Discussion on Clear Backpacks
- Importance of having conversations with parents about clear backpacks.
- Other schools faced backlash and complaints from parents about clear backpacks.
- The school was able to implement clear backpacks successfully by communicating with families beforehand.

Ensuring Student Safety

- Discussion about implementing a clear backpack policy to ensure student safety.
- Concerned about the safety of students and the need for improved security measures.
- Seeking approval from upper leadership for the proposed policy. Open discussion among members and the public Implementing Clear Backpacks in Schools
- Considering implementing clear backpacks in schools for safety reasons.
- Clear backpacks are required at events like games, and the school wants to ensure consistency.
- Seeking input from students before making a decision and informing families about the proposed change.

Discussion on ways to reach families for care backpack approval

- Digital communication may not be effective, so we should consider using both email and letters.
- Word-of-mouth might not reach everyone, so we should also distribute flyers in person.
- We need to determine when we need to meet and approve the care backpacks.

Discussion on how to communicate with parents

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- The best way to communicate with parents is to send home information packets.
- The packets should include information about the school, the teachers, and the students.
- The packets should also include information about how parents can get involved in their child's education.

Discussion on Clear Backpacks for Students

- Considering introducing clear backpacks for students.
- Need to inform families about the pros and cons in a neutral manner.
- Seeking feedback from families before making a decision.

Considering Students' Opinions on Clear Backpacks

- Clear backpacks may encourage more purchases, but students' opinions are crucial.
- Need to address potential embarrassment and shame related to carrying feminine products in clear backpacks.
- Considering these factors is essential if clear backpacks become the norm.

Concerns about providing clear backpacks to low-income families

- Discussion on the challenges of providing clear backpacks to low-income families.
- Concerns about the cost of purchasing multiple backpacks for each family.
- Suggestions for clear communication and surveys to understand families' needs.

Safety Concerns and Backpacks for Students

- Discussed safety concerns and the need for further clarification on backpacks.
- Mentioned the idea of small bags for girls to store their belongings.
- Emphasized the importance of communicating with parents about the transition during the school year.

Discussion on Clear Backpacks for Students

- Pros and cons of providing clear backpacks to students at the start of the school year.
- The safety of students is a primary concern.
- A meeting of board members will be held to vote on the proposal.

Seeking Community Input for School Decisions

- Emphasizing the significance of obtaining community support, particularly from students, parents, and the group, for school-related decisions.
- Stressing the need for effective communication and accessibility of information to parents, both digitally and in print.
- Exploring options for distributing documents to parents, such as through volunteers or direct distribution during school dismissal.

QR Code Survey for Feedback

- Seeking feedback from students and parents through QR code survey.
- Aiming to ensure decisions reflect collective preferences.
- Survey results will provide accurate insights.

Discussion on Voting Percentage and Weight

- Agreed to decide on the percentage required for decision-making (50% + 1).

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- Will hold an emergency council meeting to review votes once the required percentage is reached.
- Debated the weightage of parent and student votes, considering options like 75%-25%, 80%-20%, or 50%-50%.

Voting System for Parents and Students

- Considering a voting system involving both parents and students.
- Proposing a 50% + 1 weightage for both parents and students.
- QR code-based voting system suggested for ease of participation. Seeking Support for Clear Backpacks
- Teachers will be asked to help with a survey about clear backpacks.
- Pros and cons of clear backpacks will be communicated to students and families.
- If 50% plus 1 of the votes are in favor, clear backpacks will be implemented.

Informing Families about QR Code and Login Details

- Informing families about QR code and login details for accessing online resources.
- Flyers with QR code and instructions will be sent home for easy access.
- Support will be provided at school for any login or technical issues. The site council concluded that they will send a survey for families and students to complete to proceed with the clear backpack process with a percentage of 50% +1 among families and students' responses.

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First: Stefanie Mares Novak Second: Marlene Lopez Vote unanimous approved

ITEM TITLE	
DISCUSSION NOTES	
RESOLUTION	

VI. Discussion/information items

ITEM TITLE	
DISCUSSION NOTES	
RESOLUTION	

ITEM TITLE		

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DISCUSSION NOTES	
RESOLUTION	
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VII. Submission of items for next agenda.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm by Ericka Lopez

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