

Emerson SCC Meeting Minutes – Glendale Library. March 14, 2018

Principal's Report

The school had a great turnout for SEP conferences with successful book fair.

A time for reflection was set aside today in honor of the Parkland Students, 17 minutes of silence was observed. Student participation was optional. It was a positive experience for all involved.

School door security is an issue that needs to be addressed. Kids have been propping doors open, etc. Safety and Security at the school is a topic for further discussion with the school administration re policy and procedure.

The ELP Kindergarten program is being canceled for the next school year. Ms. Reynolds will have staffing issues as a result. Current plan is to keep two full-day Kindergarten classes and one half-day class. FTE allocation is affected.

Three-year Priorities

Emerson administration and faculty collaboration with SCC input resulted in the excellence & equity plan. April presented the draft (see handout). Heather Bennett added that this is the best plan she's seen thus far.

Question raised – what are teachers and schools doing for outreach on kids that need additional support services? Teachers understand the pathways and process to get help and referrals for support. Teachers and admin meet regularly to discuss kids that need help. It takes time. It was suggested that we make the pathway to access these services more clear to parents.

Review of the School LAND Trust Plan

April distributed a draft of the LAND Trust Plan. Currently, 54% of Kindergarten students are at proficiency in reading and math upon leaving Kindergarten. A 10% reduction in the number of children exiting Kindergarten under proficiency is the goal. Hiring kindergarten para-pros (part of land trust funds) will help the school work toward this goal. There is an achievement gap with low income students, the school is constantly trying to address this.

Discussion points:

- Should ELP data be excluded from these #'s?
- We discussed measuring "growth" rather than proficiency and setting the goals accordingly.
- Sub-goal – promote Kindergarten attendance? Some kids miss up to 6 weeks/year.
- Teachers decide which kids need intervention. Currently, 50-60 kids take advantage of interventionists.

MOTION: The committee voted and approved the submission of this draft (unanimous)

Teacher Support

The SCC discussed that it is not the place of the committee to nominate teachers for awards but we can share information about the awards and the nomination process. The teacher/staff survey may not ultimately help us achieve a goal of retaining teachers. It could be beyond the scope of this committee. As a committee, maybe we need to focus more on achieving the goals we have set forth. The feedback from the teachers present at the meeting is that they appreciate the committee working with them to help them achieve their goals.