

Bristow Run Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 5, 2023

Attendees

Erinn Mulligan
James Johnson
Jessica Kilpatrick
Rhonda Jeck
Angelita Gamble
Megan Foelsch
Amie Francis
Liz Barclay
Gary Shivers
Tommy Cureton
Susie Adib
Amanda Scholl
Tiffinni Hargrave
Kathrin Goodman
Ashlie Smith
Brandon Smith
Kate Danziger
Michelle Mulligan
Heather Stietzel

Call to Order

6:03 pm Call to order by Erinn

Introduction

- Members introduced themselves and what neighborhood they represent.
- QR code was provided to bring snacks and drinks for future meetings.
- Approval of September minutes. Several name changes and some spelling errors were noted. Gary Shivers made a motion to approve minutes with changes, and Amanda Scholl seconded.

Citizen's Time

- Susie Adib: Not a question, just a statement. The crossing guard that had the medical emergency came to say hi to the kids. He will not be returning to his position but he is doing better.
- Kate Danziger: Can you talk about Robotics club?
 - o Answer: It's run by Mr. Gass, and is only for 4th and 5th grade students. 5th grade students are rolled in from 4th. 4th graders are nominated by teachers and deal directly with Mr. Gass. There is a selective process for who gets to be in it. There

are two teams, A Team which is competitive and B Team which is are kids who robotics enjoy but aren't doing competitions.

- Kate Danziger: Are you still going to do the quarterly events where kids were being rewarded for good behavior?
 - o Answer: Not exactly. We are pulling back a bit, we will do one at the end of each semester. We got feedback from our teachers last year on it. It was a lot of work and expensive, so the feedback was let's just do one each semester. It's no longer based on behavior because each teacher has their own behavior system, so now it's just a celebration. The kids ask about it all the time. We think it's important to do fun things with the kids.
- Erinn Mulligan: What are the procedures for an after hour event if the doors are locked? Is there a number to call?
 - o Answer: We have a monthly calendar that goes out to need-to-know people about after school events and rentals. Custodians are supposed to be there to open the door once it's approved. The one time someone wasn't here to open doors we believe it was because we don't have a bookkeeper to organize a lot of this right now. It's otherwise never happened in the 8 years Mrs. Jeck has been here. You can also knock on the door of the security guy (Mr. Scott) who lives here. He works during the day at Battlefield HS but he does rounds first thing in the morning and late at night, and he's here in case there are any incidents after hours or weekends, snow days etc. It was noted that we should invite Mr. Scott to one of the meetings.
- Erinn Mulligan: We are getting mixed messages as Kindergarten parents on dismissal procedures for walkers. What is the protocol?
 - o Answer: Anyone on the emergency card can pick them up, asking on a daily basis is just so the TA's know.
- Gary Shivers: Can we get an update overall on the attendance of the clubs?
 - o Answer: The first day was Tuesday, it was a little shaky but today (Thursday) went much better. All but two clubs made it in terms of member minimums. Cheerleading was overfilled. Kwon's did not show up on Tuesday but they will tack on an additional class at the end to make up for it. A portion of the proceeds helps a kid who can't afford to go. Our goal is to do it in the spring.
- Gary Shivers: Has the bookkeeper position been filled?
 - o Answer: We've had several people email about the bookkeeper position but they have to apply through the county HR . I don't even have my list from them as HR is a little slow. It is a full time job.

SCA

- Letters to students who made it through to interviews were supposed to go out today but they did not, they will go out tomorrow. Applications are graded on a Rubrik system by Ms. Gamble and Mrs. Bagyoni. Those kids have interviews (about ten minutes each) and then four from each grade will be chosen.
- Official start of SCA will be October 18.
- Gary asked if the interview dates will be delayed because the letters were, Ms. Gamble said no it should not.

Principals Time

- Back to school night: Kindergarten through 2nd was a lower than expected turnout for BTSN but 3rd through 5th was good. It was wonderful to see everyone and for parents to see the updates in the building.
- Watch DOGS: We have over 100 people coming to our kickoff evening on October 8. Mr. Rossi has done a great job heading that program. James Moore is the co-leader this year. Some dads come several times, some do not. They were so helpful last year when students were in the temporary trailers. Megan uses them to clean art supplies so the class is prepared for the next day. They also helped organize the front office last year. They usually spend lunch, an hour of class, and end of the day with their own child. In between they help out around the school wherever needed. They get a walkie talkie and a t-shirt.
- We use a lot of other parent volunteers in the building, and we are working with Tania to do an orientation about volunteering. Volunteers are here to help and support but not to talk about anything going on in the building.
- One thing we are struggling with is parents taking pictures in the lunchroom this year. Please don't facetime anyone or take pictures of any students, just come have lunch with your child. A reminder will be put in the newsletter. Amanda asked if there is a list of students that don't want their pics taken? Mrs. Jeck said for yearbook it's different, like if it's a field trip. But be mindful, it's not great to photograph other kids. James suggested sending pics to the teachers first.
- Gary asked if there is a sign up or max number of people who can come for lunch? Answer is no, there isn't. It's never been an issue.
- Continuous Improvement Plan presentation
 - o Every school does a CIP. Our goals are created from the Strategic Plan from the county and Dr. McDade.
 - o We look at trend data, sub group data, student and parent satisfaction data, etc. to determine our goals.
 - o Learning and achievement for all, we came out pretty good. All percentages were over 80%, but what do our subgroups look like? Those group areas were lower for students with disabilities and other subgroups so we are really focused on them this year. The numbers are still lower than they were pre-covid.
 - o Absenteeism was 9% last year which was better than previous years. Anything lower than 10% in the county is given the green light. If your kid doesn't have a fever or isn't throwing up, they need to come to school. Excused or unexcused absences count towards this. Attendance is tied to our accreditation, there is a lot of worry about Code Orange days and how that will skew that data.
 - o We really want to focus on where we aren't achieving or where there is a gap. A big one is the sense of belonging for kids in the building.
 - o Erinn asked if it's possible some of the survey data is skewed from peculiar wording in the questions. It can also depend on how the kid feels that same day. Unfortunately a lot of the surveys come from the county so we can't control how they are worded.
 - o We have hard copies of the entire plan if you'd like to read it.

Committee Updates

- PTO: Upcoming events include Parent's Night Out at Showcase Dance, trick or treat event on October 30, and Square One art orders. The artwork will be sent out on October 13. Heather said the new name of the trick or treat event is the "Halloween Parade". We are trying to come up with names to be code for us and not to encourage middle school students to crash the parties.
- SACI: Our rep is Kate Danziger, if you have any questions that the division would handle pass them on through her. We do need an alternate for SACI still. The first meeting will be October 12. Kate addressed the question about when enrollment is down and money has to be pulled away from a school, where does that money go? The answer provided was from the chair of SACI. It depends on where the money comes from, like if it was tied to a specific program like special ed, etc. Funds can get shifted to schools that are over projection. I don't know if any money is ever returned to the state or county government. Will review the other questions and answers at the next meeting.

Adjournment

- We are using a QR code to get feedback on the meeting. We do really appreciate everyone coming. Typical meeting are an hour long.
- Gary Shivers motioned to adjourn at 7:27 pm, seconded by Susie Adib.