

# **Bristow Run Advisory Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **Thursday, April 4, 2024**

#### **Attendees**

Erinn Mulligan  
Jessica Kilpatrick  
James Johnson  
Angelita Gamble  
Tommy Cureton  
Kate Danziger  
Tiffinni Hargrave  
Jorge Sanchez  
Amie Francis  
Amanda Scholl

#### **Call to Order**

6:03 pm Call to order by Erinn

#### **Approval of Previous Month's Minutes**

- Erinn noted two name misspellings. James Johnson motioned to approve, Tommy Cureton seconded.

#### **Citizens' Time**

- James Johnson: What is the status of the electric sign outside?  
Answer: They dug during spring break to try and get the electricity connected, but they hit a rock. So they are having to dig again to get it connected.
- Kate Danziger: Since COVID and because kids spend so much time on the keyboards, why is typing not part of the curriculum?  
Answer: There is not to my knowledge, but I will check with Mrs. Jeck. In CLEVER there is a typing app for them to practice.
- Erinn Mulligan: To go off of Kate's question, is there any education of Microsoft applications for kids?  
Answer: Amanda Scholl noted they do teach some things in middle school. Ms. Gamble said a lot of teachers will set up a time for Mr. Painter to come into the classroom to teach some apps like PowerPoint.
- Tiffinni Hargrave: What is the status of the broken fence?  
Answer: Mr. Cureton was able to connect us with a document of our agreement with Parks & Rec, and a request form to have it remedied. The request was submitted earlier this week so it is in the works. It goes through Parks & Rec because it is not actually our fence.

## **SCA**

- We did have to cancel our meeting yesterday, because the guinea pig Penny had to be put down. The Multicultural night will be May 22 from 6-7:30pm and we are working on getting a flyer out by this coming Monday so there is ample time for families to sign up and prepare.

## **Principals Time**

- Student projections are: 29 in Pre-K, 93 in Kindergarten, 70 in 1<sup>st</sup> grade (as noted we will not need a fourth teacher but it evens out because Ms. Heltibridle is retiring), 2<sup>nd</sup> 85, 3<sup>rd</sup> 109, 4<sup>th</sup> 98, 5<sup>th</sup> 114.
- Our EL student numbers have gone up so we have hired a part time EL teacher.
- SOLs
  - o They have us testing over two days for each subject per grade this year. Testing opens April 22, for BRES we will begin April 29 and finish May 16.
  - o The students are given all day for testing if they need it, but usually don't need it. Encore is moved to the end of the day during testing for those grades so they don't have to take a break for Encore during testing time. Most students are finished by lunch, but those who are not can continue after lunch.
  - o Kate Danziger asked if there is an SOL information night like there was last year. Ms. Gamble said they are thinking about it but with the tight timing a decision hasn't been made. We may try to make a video with some basic questions and answers about them.
  - o SOLs do not go on their report cards, and it does not affect the student moving on the grade. If a student fails, it flags them to let us know that they will need remedial help the following year.
  - o The results of the SOLs mostly affect the school as a whole. It drives our school improvement plan and other state effects.
  - o The SOLs look very similar to the VGAs, so the students don't really need to be taking any sort of practice testing as they've been doing VGA tests all year.

## **Council Discussion**

- We are asking members to send information about registering Kindergarten students to their HOA to please share with their respective neighborhoods.
- We are also trying to encourage more parents to respond to the parent survey that went out on April 1.
- Review of the Bylaws. Some changes may be made and voted upon in May.

## **Committee Updates**

- SACI:
  - o We discussed family and community outreach.
  - o Schools should have a Family Academic and Community Education Specialist (FACES). Goal is by 2025 that all schools have an identified staff member, currently only about 60 out of the 90 schools do.
  - o Mrs. Macwhorter is our FACES specialist at BRES. It's all about building communication and trust between families and the school. Responsibilities

include Literacy Night, One Book One School, No Place for Hate, End of School Celebration.

- The Parent Liaison position is being revised throughout the county. Part of it is the liaison is responsible for communication with ALL families, not just underserved or extra needs families.
  - Reviewed the Family Engagement Series, which are presentations on services and programs available in PWCS.
  - They are looking for more Community Hubs in Western Prince William County.
- PTO:
- Spring Carnival is April 19 at school from 5:30-8:30
  - Silent Auction
  - Bookfair
  - Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest

### **Adjournment**

- Tiffinni Hargrave motioned to adjourn at 7:30 pm, seconded by Amanda Scholl.