Draper Elementary SCC Meeting Minutes 11/22/2021

In Attendance:

Janene Day (parent) Stacey Shaw (parent) Sarah Cole (parent) Megan Litster (parent) Nancy Nichols (parent) Brooke Free (parent) Melissa Inouye (parent) Christy Waddell (principal) Julie Page (employee) Julie McFarland (employee)

Excused: Mike Weaver (parent) Angie Stallings (parent)

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome

Janene

2. Approve <u>Previous Meeting Minutes</u> Janene Janene motioned to approve the previous meeting minutes. It was seconded by Megan. The minutes were unanimously approved by those present.

3. School Update We only have 1 Covid case currently. Christy

A lot of absenteeism which we are ok with since it is the right thing for parents to have their students stay home when they are unwell. Christy has seen a lot of teachers out sick as well.

Christy asked if there were any questions.

Janene said that the PTA donated a truck full of items to South Valley Services

Also at Kneaders School Spirit night the school raised over \$800.

Fano is no longer in the lunchroom for 5th grade. He needed to take a step back until their behavior improves.

Sarah asked: How is teacher morale going?

Christy said very up and down (on the low end). Julie M. said that all the teachers are feeling an April/May burnout now. It is difficult having so many absent students. Julie M. said she has at least 5 out every day. Julie P. agreed. Christy reiterated that teachers are happy to get homework together when asked. However, it is frustrating when it is asked for but not picked up. Christy said she has a surprise for them after Thanksgiving. Julie M. said it is also really stressful for teachers when they are out and unable to get subs. Christy said that it seems like there are a lot of personal issues going on with teachers this year. Julie M. said we're feeling the nation's COVID uncertainty and unrest that everyone is feeling and then the children are feeling more needy and then now they have no social skills program to be used. There seems to be a lack of coregulation. Many of the kinders did not go to preschool last year which they are seeing the ripple effect of.

Nancy asked: Why are they not going to preschool? Julie M. said because of COVID. Nancy recommended the UPSTART program that is online for preschool. She suggested raising awareness for parents. Janene reiterated that there is also a lot of learning in Kindergarten.

Melissa asked: Is there anything that the new version of our plan could include to help teachers? What is the most helpful thing the SCC can do for teachers? Christy said the tutoring is really good and it is helping the kids that need it. The problem is getting the staff that could tutor. Christy discouraged teachers this year to do it because she knows that they are on overload. It is a scripted program. They would like to begin tutoring for math but they don't have people to teach.

Nancy asked if we could go out to the community and see if there are older members that could tutor. Maybe put a flyer in the senior center or library that we are looking for volunteers.

Melissa asked is there anything else? Julie P. said a copier. Julie M. reiterated that a lot of people are dealing with family issues this year too. Julie P. asked for patience and kindness from the community. Janene asked so we have money for an aide but not able to find people to fill the positions. Christy said yes.

Julie M. said the PTA has been very respectful and appreciative of the staff and teachers. The breakfast and lunches they did are a huge deal. The little things do go a long way. Maybe on Fridays we bring in pizza. It was just a morale boost having to not worry. Christy would love to do a nerf gun tournament but said the teachers are too exhausted for one more thing.

Melissa asked if we could provide regular meals.

Julie M. said the teachers LOVED when the PTA filled the refrigerator with drinks. She said it went a long way with teachers.

Christy said we do have more parents that are getting upset about things. There are more problems with behavior as a whole this year. Christy has a meeting tomorrow with parent and teacher. Julie M. said that is what hurts morale. (When they are working so hard and then get a parent yelling at them.)

Brook asked if we could reach out to room parents as a whole to take care of their teachers throughout the year on a more regular basis.

Julie M. said to have the room parent write the note and then teachers can send it out.

Christy said that teachers can only accept gift cards that are \$50.

Christy said they had more to say about the sodas than previous gift cards.

Stacey asked if we could coordinate with PTA for once a month food for teachers.

Julie M. thanked Melissa for asking about how to help teachers.

Melissa and Stacey said of course, you are the most important.

Janene said that she thinks that using room parents may help. Brook said that she thinks it will help improve relationships with teachers and parents.

Nancy said as a parent it has been helpful when the teacher invites them in to see how to do things online.

Janene said she thinks the room parent could reach out. Nancy said could we reach out and ask is there anything that you need help with that we could coordinate. Stacey compared it to a team like a sports team. Janene said that has not been the culture here at the school but would love to see the change. Sometimes the room parent group and PTA group has functioned separately from each other.

Brook said this is a side idea, if we work on this process (of getting room parents more involved). If you can develop that, it might encourage more substitutes for emergency substitutes for their class. Christy said some might not want to substitute for their own class like Janene.

Brook said that a pediatrician told her that the illnesses this year are up from lowered immunity.

Janene said going forward the PTA could meet with Christy to make a solid plan before reaching out to

Christy suggested a snack like chips and salsa might be good as well.

Julie said she saw a principal that bought all the Lays potato chips to do a tasting.

Julie said ask room parents to inquire what they might like.

Stacey said that it might be good to connect room parents by grade.

Melissa was asking if we can make a budget line for teacher happiness. Christy said we can do it under PBIS. Janene said it is difficult to measure outcomes of teacher happiness and anything in our plan needs to be measurable. Julie M. said maybe sending a survey. Melissa said we could measure teacher retention.

Stacey made a suggested plan for the rest of the year. What if we break up the rest of the 5 months starting at the first of the year between SCC, PTA, and room parents?

Janene asked if it was okay if she took it to the PTA with Christy to figure it out? Everyone agreed.

4. Safe Walking Routes Stacey

Janene and Stacey met with the city on the corner. It was successful. There were kids that crossed. They were able to see how dicey it was when a bus cut the corner.

David Dobbins came. He said again and again the city is liable for the problem. Cal Roberts and Fred Lowry were also there from the city council. They were supportive of a change.

On that corner there are utility lines which would have to be moved.

One suggestion Janene said was moving a school zone sign.

David Dobbins will be meeting with the city engineer and get back to us.

They said cement barriers are against the rules. While they were standing there, the bus came by and drove right where cones would have been so those would be ineffective as well.

Janene said they asked if they were their kids (that crossed) and they said that they were not. They were surprised to see them advocating for other kids.

Janene said she feels that they lit a fire and we need to keep it lit.

Stacey said by January we should hopefully know something.

Melissa asked what deadlines are for turning in everything. Janene said not until March and we don't write anything. Christy will write it and she will present it to us for review.

Christy moved that we adjourned.

It was seconded by Brook and agreed on unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings

December - no meeting 01/24 at 3:45 02/28 at 3:45 3/28 at 3:45 4/25 at 3:45 5/23 at 3:45 (optional)