

ESCO Meeting Minutes

September 12th, 2018

Eastside Elementary Multipurpose Room

Attendees

Board Members: Karen Sommers (President), Linda Pergola (Vice-President), Heather Miller (Treasurer), Michelle Culley (Secretary)

Craig Coulthart, Principal

Bryn Horton, School Board representative

Teachers: *(present for the Q/A panel)* Marnie Zander, Brenda Hemenway, Rebecca Steel, Shelly Smith, Shawna Blood, Dawn Payne

Parents: Jen Savagian, Catherine Ernst, Kristin Lefel, Prue Lotharius, Tara Weaver, Julie Simonds, Cindy Elliot, Amy Hensler, Melissa Janz, Jacque Kammerzelt, Christine Immel, Elizabeth Giese, Kathy Anderson

6:30 President Karen Sommers introduced our School Board Representative, Bryn Horton. Bryn discussed the surveys that will be mailed to the families or can be submitted electronically. Bryn encouraged everyone to complete the surveys as they will help the board determine space planning for future schools in conjunction with the growth of Sun Prairie. Surveys are due September 24th. She also mentioned the Annual Elector's Meeting on October 1st, all are welcome.

6:35 Teacher Panel: Parents had an opportunity to ask the teachers questions about specific grades. Teachers from all grades were present except 1st grade. Brenda Hemenway represented music, health, and art.

- Assignment notebooks were explained for 3rd and 4th grade
- Rebecca Steel was asked about the no homework policy for 2nd grade, she explained the philosophy behind not assigning homework other than reading and some projects throughout the year
- All the grades commented the reading is the top priority for the students. They should be reading every night
- Marnie Zander explained the reading goals for Kindergarten students. By the end of the year, the goal is for the students to be able to read 2-3 sentences on a page

- A parent asked about scholastic teacher wishlists. Teachers do have wishlists available at the Open House. They encouraged the parent to ask their child's teacher if any books were needed.
- 2nd grade reading levels are assigned by dot color not letters

Teacher panel dismissed

6:50 Call to Order Meeting called to order by President Karen Sommers

6:55 Principal Update

- Mr. C discussed the changes in staff and that it's been a great start to the year. He highlighted the shout-outs from 2nd grade and a K class that were on NBC news. Also the "Hug the school" that the students participated in was televised. He went over the renovations that were done in the school over the summer: new floors in the hallways as well as a new gym floor
- Mr. C later discussed the Watchdogs program in more detail. The meeting is coming up September 26th
- Also mentioned that a speaker from JusTme will be at the school next week doing an assembly about mindfulness

7:05 Budget Update

- Heather Miller discussed the proposed budget for 2018-2019 school year. She went through the 'income' and 'expenses' sections and highlights some of the major things, including the Goldie Gallop, Eastside Eats Out, and Celebrate Eastside

7:15 ESCO Monthly Update/Calendar of Events

- Karen Sommers told the group all ESCO had done the past month: popsicles on the playground, teacher brunch, back to school coffee and donuts for the parents, teacher lounge renovations, tokens of appreciation
- Reviewed calendar of events
 - Picture Day: September 24th
 - WatchD.O.G.S. night- September 26th
 - Open House – October 4th
 - Goldie Gallop – October 5th
 - **Co-Chairs Tara and Prue provided updates on the Goldie Gallop. They gave a general overview and some fun things to look forward to. Including the fire truck and EMS being there to cheer on the kids, a DJ, a new location in the field in the front of the building. Discussed volunteer opportunities and the sponsors**
 - Book Fair (Nov 6-9) and Pastries with Parents (Nov 7)

7:30 Volunteer Opportunities

- Linda Pergola talked about various opportunities to volunteer at our Family Fun Nights and other events. She talked about how you sign up for a shift and how appreciated and valuable it is.
- Box Tops Coordinator: The board has been taking over the Box Tops responsibilities – gathering, clipping, submitting. If anyone is interested in helping coordinate, please email ESCO!

7:40 New Business

- Michelle Culley asked the group if there were any speakers parents would like to have at an ESCO meeting.
 - Love and Logic was mentioned at the elementary school level
 - Other ideas: PBIS, nutrition, school safety
- Keys to Foundation- October 18th 6-9 pm
 - Michelle explained what this event entails and that each SCO puts in a basket for the silent auction. There is a contest to see which basket raises the most money for the foundation.
 - This year, Eastside is putting in a “front patio party” basket – which includes 2 red anorak chairs, plates, margarita glasses, and margarita mix
- Volunteer Drawing
 - Kathy Anderson won a prize for volunteering this past month!

7:45 Open Floor

- Field Trips: a parent asked how field trips were done/are they specific to each grade? Yes, some are specific to each grade and there are 3 school-wide field trips every year
- Eagle Pride recognition for student’s behavior was explained

7:50 Meeting Adjourned