Horizon Elementary – School Community Organization (SCO) Meeting Minutes October 13, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:03 pm

25 people in attendance

Call to Order/Welcome: Karen Anderegg

Approval of September Minutes

• The previous month's minutes can be found on the Horizon website. Motion to approve minutes by Kristen B, seconded by Nicole A, all in favor.

Financial Report: Leanne Wege

- The current budget can be found on the Horizon website. We have some Scrip revenue coming in.
- We sent a check out for last year's yearbook and for hardship funds for this year to be spent by a staff member on headphones with microphones for some students.
- Horizon has an account under Amazon Smile. If you do not already support a non-profit through organization, please consider adding the Horizon SCO as your non-profit.
- Motion to approve financials by Kristen B, seconded by Morgan A, all in favor.

Upcoming Events:

- Burrachos Shares Nights on October 21st, taco kits can be ordered up to 3 days in advance.
- Jersey Mike's Shares Day will be in early November.
- We will have a Culver's Shares Night in April. If this has to be canceled, Culver's will make a monetary donation to Horizon.
- Keri Jo has reached out to a few other restaurants to arrange shares nights for later in the year.

Nominations and voting for board members (President and Secretary)

• We did not receive any nominations for board members.

Principal Remarks: Michelle Kelly

• See attached document for all the questions that Michelle answered.

School Board Update: Caren Diedrich

- The third Friday in September is when the district takes enrollment. The district is down 100 students, among the lowest in Dane County. For comparison, Madison lost between 800 900 students.
- The new West high school building is going up; if you walk by you can see the elevator shaft and some walls have been built.
- The football stadium is pretty complete. Caren would recommend driving by it to take a look. The school has purchased some of the surrounding properties.
- The school board had their annual meeting. They won't know where they will be on the annual budget until after the election.
- The secondary boundaries committee has met twice and is meeting again tomorrow night. They are figuring out how to move forward and have received a lot of data. They are looking at making

- schools equitable across all concerns. We feel pretty confident that students in the Horizon neighborhoods will go to Prairie View and Sun Prairie West High School.
- The school district uses Dean for their health insurance. Opening a clinic at Cardinal Heights helped control health insurance costs for the district and the city of Sun Prairie. The clinic is open for teachers and city staff to use. The hardest part is getting school and city staff to understand the clinic is for their families, too.
- https://www.sunprairieschools.org/district/wellness-clinic

Open Discussion/Questions

- Let the SCO know if you have any topics that you would like to see presented at our following meetings.
- Is there a resource for families to reach out and help other families who are struggling during this time? Sunshine Place works directly with the school district social workers, so Sunshine Place would be a good organization to reach out to.
- None of the district food drop-offs are located on the west side of town. Has the district considered expanding those free lunches to a wider part of the community? Caren can mention this to Dr. Saron. Could parents from Horizon offer to pick up food for those who can't get to the pickup locations and bring it to Horizon for an easier pickup?
- Michelle would be happy to talk 1:1 with any parent who has questions, so please know that you can contact her with any questions that you have.

Meeting adjournment at 7:08pm- Motioned by Kristen B, seconded by Nicole A, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Marcie Johnson, Horizon SCO Secretary

Please contact the SCO by emailing any of the following:

Karen Anderegg president@horizonsco.org
Heather Peschl vicepresident@horizonsco.org
Marcie Johnson secretary@horizonsco.org
Leanne Wege treasurer@horizonsco.org
Keri Jo Brown fundraiser@horizonsco.org

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SCO Meeting - 10.14.20

Questions for Mrs. Kelly

Current Distance Learning:

- Has there been additional consideration for a more structured format? Other virtual schools (including some SP elementary schools) are providing a live lesson for the entire school day. Could the elementary schools consider this? I think anything can be considered. I have learned that everything is evolving this year. The purpose of the family surveys was to hear from you and to help get things right for our learners. The district is committed to keeping our students safe while also finding the right balance of heavy lifting for our students.
- What is the expectation for synchronous learning time? The expectation for synchronous learning time is for students to be able to receive immediate feedback from teachers in a more live setting; teachers can do redirecting and focus on what they are assessing students need right in that moment; synchronous time also allows for the social emotional time for students to see each other, check in, feel part of a community. How much time should students be spending in Zoom meetings with the teacher providing instruction each day? Refer to the linked document. Morning meetings on M, T, TH and Friday and then approximately 60+ minutes per week of small group instructional time. Some teachers are on zooms longer, but students have the option to just stay on for the portion that includes his/her small group time.
 1 page view of public facing document
- What is the learning expectation for Wednesday, it is a make-up day but for what? Is it ok if students choose not to do any learning on Wednesdays? Wednesdays are independent work days. No new material is being pushed out on Wednesdays, but it is a day that students should be taking advantage of practicing their skills. Independent reading, practice in Freckle are big pushes on Wednesdays. You are the parents. If you do not want your child to do learning on Wednesdays, you create the family expectations. My professional opinion is this: I would keep Wednesdays a school day and I would continue to promote reading, writing, and numeracy practice.
- How much time should students be spending on SeeSaw each day? What total learning times (SeeSaw plus synchronous) are expected per day? <u>I page view of</u> public facing document

- How are you ensuring that all students are learning to their full potential, rather than doing busy work, when some students have very little synchronous learning and finish their SeeSaw assignments very quickly? The key ingredient is the time spent in our small groups. This is where the teachers are assessing students' needs. Teachers are reviewing this week's lessons and seeing if students are on target. From here, teachers are planning for next week's needs. The reason the elementary schools went to the focus on small group instruction time rather than full day zooms was to create the best learning environment for the most amount of students in the least obstructive way for all family dynamics.
- What should parents say to children who claim they aren't learning anything new and are bored watching videos? With parent/teacher conferences coming up very soon, I encourage this to be a topic to have directly with the teacher. We can offer students enrichment activities if what they are doing as a whole class is not challenging individual learners. I also think this is an appropriate message to share with your classroom teacher right away. Sometimes students will say they are not learning anything or the videos are boring because we haven't yet found a way to properly engage your learner. Much of the lessons at the beginning of the year are a review so that teachers can get a better sense of where students are in their learning progression; this holds true in Distance Learning mode or if our students were in person like any other year. This year our teachers are teaching the same lessons they would be teaching if the students were in person.
- Are we on track academically with the virtual lessons when comparing to the schools that are doing live instruction? Schools across the country are grappling with maintaining safety while ensuring high-quality learning for all students. Sun Prairie is no different. We are carefully monitoring students' progress, and feedback through the surveys and parent / teacher conferences provide us with information to make changes. We're confident that consistency and increased rigor within distance learning is better than the back-and-forth experienced by some districts who have brought students in-person but have been beset by short term quarantines and long-term closures, often with no notice.
- What happened to the Health curriculum? Are students who did not get it last year
 going to get it this year? Yes, currently our 4th grade students are getting health
 class. Our 5th grade students will have health class in the 2nd semester where
 we will condense the health curriculum from last year and this year.
- Who are student support hubs for and how were those individuals identified? **These** are for a small, target population of our students showing with data that they are

not making growth. These hubs are provided under public health recommendations for students with disabilities to additional vulnerable populations. Phase 2 includes English Learners, students experiencing housing insecurity, students with the lowest levels of engagement in distance learning, students with barriers to access, or students in need of urgent intervention. We used engagement data from the spring, intervention data from spring, teacher input from the spring and from the fall, and of course, parent input to make these student hubs.

- Will Horizon have clubs like middle school? Currently, the elementary schools do
 not have our clubs in place. We will actively monitor the district's ability to
 provide virtual and/or in-person options as the year continues. Are students
 going to get science/social studies this year? As much as possible, teachers are
 embedding science/social studies learning into their literacy and math
 instruction. This could look like reading from a science magazine, watching a
 video about communities, writing about social studies, etc.
- A distance learning survey was sent out. What was the purpose of the survey as not all families received the survey or received it for one child but not the other? Everyone should have received the survey. I have worked with some individual families to reach out to the District Technology department to get a copy of the survey to include feedback. The surveys were intended to go to all families for each student, and the purpose was to obtain feedback on the first 4-6 weeks of distance learning. With a desire to make the surveys easier for parents by pre-populating them with information, we used a new survey tool that could link data from Infinite Campus. This proved to have some glitches and resulted in the problems noted. We apologize for the errors in processing the surveys.

Reopening Plans:

 What will class sizes be? Depending on the number of families who participate in the hybrid model will determine the class size. You can expect in a hybrid model that the number of students per class will be cut in half of the class size at a minimum.

- How will the school maintain social distancing among young students? We will teach
 appropriate space (6 ft), we will use plexiglass where needed, students and staff
 will wear masks.
- How will the school enforce proper mask-wearing? We will teach our students how
 to wear the mask, explain why wearing a mask is important, and model wearing
 masks for students having trouble adjusting. Will all students be required to wear
 masks in the classroom? What will you do with students who refuse to wear masks,
 or don't wear masks properly? Yes, all students and staff must wear masks in
 accordance with the district's guidelines on face coverings. Face mask
 guidelines
- Where will lunch and/or snack be eaten? It will be in the classrooms.
- Will there be recess? Yes. The custodial staff applied Horizon's antimicrobial on 10/7/2020 and will last 90 days into the winter season. Plans to reapply in the spring when the weather will allow use of the equipment again.
- What will specials classes look like? Specials teachers will go to the classroom.
- Will students be in only their classroom all day? They will travel to recess. Again this is all still being developed.
- Will classes be mixing together? No, students will be kept together as a small cohort group for infection mitigation and to allow for contact tracing if someone would become ill.
- How will the school protect teachers and staff? We have a Horizon safety mitigation playbook. I shared this at the meeting on 10/14, but this document is for employees only; however, the district is currently working on a public facing SPASD Safety Mitigation Playbook that would answer many of the questions about how we will protect teachers, staff, and our students.
- What are you as a principal going to do to make sure that all of the mandates will be followed at all times? Do my best to remind faculty, staff, and families what they safety expectations and mitigation plans are. Be consistent with the rest of the school system.

- Will parents have the option to keep their students virtual? **Yes**.
- Will parents be given a tentative plan for keeping kids safe before deciding whether to send kids to school or keep them home? Yes. Each school has a safety mitigation playbook. It includes safety measures that are in place and in many cases, still being built, and will be in place. Communication about safety and the instructional model will be sent prior to parents making the decision for hybrid or to remain in distance learning.
- If parents have the option of in-person or virtual school, how will teachers be expected
 to teach both live and virtually? The hybrid model is still being built. This is being
 looked at. One of the ideas is to allow teachers time to be in front of the class
 while also having a camera on the teacher for the lesson part of the instruction.
 Virtual students would come and go.
- As the district talks about reopening elementary schools what will happen to the Y care? Will the Y still be using Horizon's gym, cafeteria, LGI etc.? The Y will be available at Horizon until it is no longer feasible to do so. This will be a district decision. As of right now, there are no changes planned for the Y programming at Horizon.
- If so, what will the Horizon students do for PE? If it is too cold or wet to go outside, what will the students do since there is no large safe indoor space? We will use a classroom that we have set aside for our PE classes.
- Will the Y notify school of COVID cases reported among their students or staff? How
 will this impact Horizon's students and staff? Since the spaces used by the YMCA
 are separated from the rest of the building operations, there should be no close
 contact between students or staff at the YMCA and the rest of the building. The
 district will work with the YMCA in the event that there are any positive cases.
- In a district that claims they prioritize equity among all students, how are they justifying taking away Horizon's largest, safest indoor spaces from Horizon students? How is that equitable to other elementary schools in the district? As has been the case all through this pandemic, the district is working hard to balance a multitude of competing interests. Distance learning has created a situation where many families are struggling to find childcare. During a time when we are unable to fully-open schools, partnering with a community organization to provide small-scale opportunities for childcare is beneficial for many families. The district worked with the YMCA to select buildings for childcare where the

spaces used could be separated from the rest of the building to further decrease interactions.

- Given that the seven day rolling average of COVID cases in WI has tripled this last month, and WI is a hotspot in the the US, health care systems are becoming overwhelmed and Gov Evers has just issued a mandate that all public spaces operate at no more than 25% capacity, why is the district starting to look now at reopening schools? District representatives are in regular communication with PHMDC. While we're currently seeing some concerning trends in data statewide, PHMDC is not seeing strong connections to in-person school environments. Dane County cases have actually fallen over the past month. Due to that, PHMDC has indicated that they are supportive of EC-Grade 2 instruction in-person at this time.
- What are the reopening parameters? SPASD is following recommendations from PHMDC for hybrid instruction. The public health department is supportive of EC-Grade 2 operating in-person at this time.
- Why is the hybrid model only opening for our K-2 students and not our 3-5 students?
 Same answer as above. The public health department is supportive of Early Childhood-Grade 2 operating in-person at this time.

Elementary Student Support in Distance Learning What can students/families expect?

SUPPORT	FREQUENCY (Minimum)	NOTES	FORMAT
LIVE: Morning Meeting with Peers	4 times/week	 Morning meeting (live Mondays, Tuesday, Thursdays, Fridays) Morning message (recorded and delivered in Seesaw) 	Zoom/Seesaw
LIVE: Individual, Small Group, or Large Group Lessons	Multiple times per week for 60+ minutes	 Live, scheduled with the family Coaching on all essential learning targets Review of individual student learning plan and pacing (created with each student/family in August-September) May include others (teachers, family, etc.) to support the learner 	In Person or Zoom
Recorded: Math Lesson	4 times/week	 Lessons will include new ideas and strategies for students to practice Embedded science and social studies learning Recorded segments will be 3-5 minutes on average, longer lessons may have multiple segments 	Seesaw
Recorded: Reading, Writing & Phonics Lessons	4 times/week	 Lessons will include new ideas and strategies for students to practice Embedded science and social studies learning Recorded segments will be 3-5 minutes on average, longer lessons may have multiple segments Reading, writing, and phonics learning targets may be delivered as individual or combined lessons based on the unit of study and learner 	Seesaw
Recorded: Social Emotional Learning Lesson	1 time/week	 Lessons will cover social emotional learning targets Lessons will be created and delivered in collaboration with the school counselor 	Seesaw or Zoom
Specials	4-5 times/week	Recorded Lessons: 1 Physical Education recorded lesson to include 3 activities each week 1 Music lesson to include 2 activities each week 1 Art lesson/activity each week 1 Library/Technology lesson/activity each week 1 Health lesson each week for 4th grade (semester 1) & 5th grade (semester 2) Live Experiences: Specials teachers will join Morning Meetings to engage with students live on a rotational schedule	Seesaw

ElementaryStudent Support in Distance Learning Frequently Asked Questions

- How much time should my student/family expect to dedicate to distance learning each week?
 - Our distance learning model includes approximately 10 hours each week. For example students will engage in live instruction, recorded lessons, specials, independent practice, and independent reading each week.
- How much time will my child have access to live instruction each week?
 - o Students and families can expect at least 3 hours of live instruction each week.
- How will the scheduling of live time be determined?
 - Teachers will be reaching out to families to schedule small group and individual live lessons and meet those needs to the greatest extent possible.
- How much time per day will be spent on independent activities?
 - Your child's lessons will result in approximately 2 hours of independent practice each day, modified as necessary.
- What happens if my child is in daycare during the workday?
 - We are working with some local child care facilities that may allow access onsite. Live lessons will also be scheduled with the family, potentially meeting in the evening to accommodate family needs.
- What if my child misses his/her/their small group?
 - Your classroom teacher will remain your direct contact when issues arise and you or your child need support.
- What if we get behind in work expectations?
 - Your classroom teacher will remain your direct contact when issues arise and you or your child need support.
- How can I get help for my child when she/he/they does not understand an assignment?
 - Your classroom teacher will remain your direct contact when issues arise and you or your child need support.
 - Our new Seesaw lesson format will also have a link in each lesson to ask questions that is automatically emailed to teachers.