

School Council Meeting Minutes

Peter Howell Elementary School

Date of Meeting: November 14th, 2023

Members Present: Lona Chacon, Jaquetta Alexander, Cynthia Cave, Nancy Huff, Lucy Patterson, Kristen Ginter, Reyna Montano

Members Absent: Jeanne Dugan, Lucy Patterson (left after discussion)

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:18 P.M. by Mrs. Chacon.
- II. **Call to Audience –** No audience
- III. **Principal's Report –**

We have TAs in all our Gen Ed classrooms We still have two contracted TAs our EXED classrooms. We have one EX ED TA vacancy, so we are still hiring for that position. Our in gardening and chicken enrichment instructor just started so she's hit the ground running she's fantastic. Mr. Jalen who was our monitor quite recently is leaving the position, but we've already hired a new monitor who starts Monday so there's no interim like vacancy which is fantastic. Monitor positions are the hardest for us to cover as support staff. Budgets, budget season is coming up soon it usually starts in January February and we're full in the swing of it by March title one and ESSER besides M&O. M and O is our budget that is allotted from the district that pays for teacher salaries and any staffing that they provide. On top of that is Title 1 and ESSER money. Title 1 is what we pay for, we fund our community liaison, Ms. Marsha is our community liaison, we fund the other half of our counselor because M&O only budgets a part-time counselor, we fund one of our interventionists because we currently have a reading and math interventionist. We fund one interventionist and then we have the little bit of money we have leftover which is typically about \$15,000 in the past we have hired a part time TA to be in kinder that's what we did for several years we also use it for any kind of technology, any kind of instructional supplies those kinds of things with that little bit we have leftover. Title 1 budget next year we anticipate that it will decrease maybe smaller than it was this year hopefully not by much, but it will decrease this year. TUVA our virtual Academy is its own school, it's not a brick and mortar building because it's virtual but it is a school recognized by the state and the last several years TUVA those students have been actually enrolled with us and TUVA has been a program so we, Howell has benefited from the funding from Title 1, we will no longer do that so it will impact our Title 1 budget. The other big one that we had for three years now is ESSER dollars and those are done at the end of this school year, so ESSER monies this year

have paid for all our TAs, so we are losing all our TA positions. It pays for one of our interventionists so we will lose either reading or math or next year go to what we used to do which was a part time math and a part time reading with reading focusing on primary grades math interventionist program focusing on intermediate rights so those are some decisions that we'll have to make as this year comes to end. OK just an update on some of the building improvements that we're looking at first and foremost everybody knows the bond passed so and Nancy you probably have already figured it out I know I sent a newsletter to families and to staff if you're interested in finding out what it there's a link on the TUSD website so you can see everything that Howell will receive and then as far as just site based we've had some volunteers on campus we finally got our tables put together that we purchased with ESSER dollars the cafeteria was painted. because our third-grade classes at the end of the year as an art installment to always leave a project at the school so this year they're doing a mural project in the cafeteria miss Wendy who is our Enrichment specialist and working on the gardening and chickens she is just kind of taking over the courtyard because that will become a huge garden area. The Omatorium recently had a bunch of the shelving moved because she is going to start a piano lab so she's making some changes inside of there, which is going to be really cool and exciting. IAP update: IAP which is a state document is our improvement plan basically and it's changing this year. So, in years past it's been quite a lengthy document that starts out with a needs assessment, then from that needs assessment we design next year's plan based on that. So, this year's needs assessment is our peer-to-peer observation, which is in year two, it is up and running smoothly. Data is another piece of that, that is a three year roll out also, it is running smoothly, and we are working on that continuously. Family engagement is a big piece because unfortunately we do not have a PTO/PTA anything of that sort, so our Family Engagement Team has taken on the role of providing/organizing family engagement things, that will continue into next year probably, I don't anticipate that changing. Next year's IAP is new and different it no longer has the long needs assessment and survey, apparently is has 6 questions. I have not seen it. I have a training next month and apparently, they say it has 6 questions and your whole IAP is built around that I am really excited, and I am interested to see what that looks like working around just 6 questions that is my update on all of those things.

IV. Community Report - Things are going on, the Halloween parade was very successful very happy it was great to see neighborhood kids I spoke to a number of them as were running by to ask what school they went to, one kid went to LineWeaver but lived in the neighborhood anyway I had some discussion with kids and parents that had little teeny ones I said are you gonna be sending them to Howell. I thought it was very happy, very successful, I thought it moved a little bit too fast. Jason was leading it and I kept texting him slow down, slow down, stop because the little ones couldn't quite keep up and he said this is my first time doing it and when he finally did look at

his phone when I was like stop now. So it went a little bit too quick but a lot of people congregated in the park I arranged to have a food truck there with Sonoran dogs and I followed up with them and they sold about 100 so it was definitely worth their while they were happy to be there they were also the same Beto's who's down on Alvernon same people that were there in our April events in the park so that was great. I just finished over the weekend tackling my corner I live almost on the corner of Speedway and Alvernon and we have a cement wash there that was just getting tagged we had murals that were painted about 12 years ago by youth volunteer Corps of America kids and it was just all getting tagged and looking scruffy so we got 22 some clear and beautiful was having a promotion on clean up midtown garden of this corridor they called it anyway they gave us supplies and paint and I just had to get people and so worked out well we got cleaned up a whole lot of trash painted the murals so if you're ever in that corner there's just one little section they ran out of paint now all they've got is dark terracotta not the light beige. Otherwise, I think from my personal perception having the monthly meetings that we have that I chair at ward 6. We're meeting with Lieutenant Tony De La Oso and we're seeing black and white again I live in that most dangerous corner Speedway gas station but we're seeing black and white police cars all the time and the population down at the park and then there's the whole park renovation that's still on hold. So, we're moving forward we have monthly meetings with the police and Steve Kozachik and we're trying to tame sort of the homeless and what they do in the way of trash and drug use and scaring kids at the park and so I guess that's it unless anybody's got questions. Leighton: a couple things one for the area over there because where we're right at the hotel I've got three particular officers one is a field training officer and another one is related to one of our employees that are going to start making more rounds in that area right and then when the girls start picking back up they're going to make extra rounds because we had issues last year and if you can send me a picture of that paint I have one of the Girl Scout parents that has access to stuff like that I might be able to use to get that last little bit painted, the girls are getting itchy to do something. Nancy: just the neutral beige yeah sure thank you that would be great thank you. OK, all right thanks Nancy.

V. Discussion items –

1. **By-Laws** – OK, so then next is our discussion items, so the first one up is the Site Council bylaws so I sent everybody the bylaws ahead of time I just printed a few for you to share and look at it so if you guys want to look at it or if you have any questions, I'll give you a few minutes to look at it. Ginter: Are the mission and vision statements transposed because it says Peter Howell vision our mission is to develop and then it says Peter Howell mission, we envision Peter Howell so those should be swapped. Chacon: OK, I don't think I've ever changed that ever, so I'll fix that. That's the first time anybody's noticed. Ginter: The third graders are working on editing

marks right now. Chacon: Does anyone having any questions or anything else that needs to be fixed? OK, the next discussion is the student garden project discussion.

- 2. Student Garden Project** – Alexander: sure so do you want me to talk a little bit about what we're going on? Yes. OK, perfect with the addition of the enrichment and structure we of course have to figure out how to fund what we're doing in the courtyard instructor we had applied for a grant through fair in partnership with the United way and unfortunately we're not awarded that grant so Wendy had put together a list of things initially that we were asking just for donations and that was put out to families and then I was waiting another week or so and I'm going to put it out to the whole community and maybe social media and things like that just to see what to start getting donated send to me and I'll thank you and then when we initially applied for the grant Flor and I had worked on it through the summer and our list of materials ended up being about \$8000 and so we were hoping to just get us off the ground by that's why we're looking at \$4000 out of our tax credit to get it started and then look for other grants we all we already know there's an EF grant that's available in the springtime so Wendy's going to apply for that and I know that the person I work with at the United way is searching for other grants for us also so hopefully some other things come up that way and then we're going to be just reaching out to businesses to see I'm sure Home Depot they're really helpful with that some of the good relationship to see if we can get some things donated that way too so the \$4000 just to get us started and then hopefully ideally we wouldn't have to use anymore tax credit and we'll be able to facilitate other grants and things like that so that's where we're at. Wendy has a lot of experience like she really has a strong foundation knowing how to run what to plant when to plant it fertilized she just knows everything she doesn't have an educational background but teachers are going to be involved so the collaboration between her and the teachers will ensure that we're also hitting state standards there's a connection what's happening in the classroom so it's not just it's not that it would be bad she's not just gardening for gardening sake we're also making sure that it's tied to state standards and she's already started taking some classes and she's visited some other sites like Tully which has a really robust program already so she's getting her feet wet like that but she's really open to getting help. if we can continue and sustain what we are building long term that would that would be a goal so that's the project and just an FYI, tax credit money pays for her and so because tax credit money we never know from year to year it's based on donations so we definitely can fund her for the rest of this year and it looks like we'll be able to refund her for next

year but ideally and she understands she was hired to work herself out of the position we want her to create a program that's sustainable by the staff that we have the skeleton staff that we have once we run out of funding so that's our goal and I think Wendy can certainly help us get to that point I know the challenge the next challenge will be sustaining it because as much as we want to just it's a big task everybody wants to do it that's one of the great things is that we committed as a site so every teacher wants to make sure that they're involved in their students involved so that's a plus well each grade level is going to have their own garden area so between Wendy and the classroom teacher they can they can determine what they will plant and how they will manage it questions.

Leighton & Montano – will reach out to people they know to possibly get donations.

Ginter – ideas to get donations for tax credit money.

Huff – We need to mail out letters for Tax donations.

V. Action items

1. Site Council By-Laws

Vote to approve Howell Site Council By-Laws. Mrs. Ginter moves that we approve the By-Laws with the amended changes of swapping a and b in Section 1– The Preamble. See Discussion above.

Motion by Ginter / Second by Nancy

Final Resolution – Motion passed.

Yes Votes – Alexander, Ginter, Huff, Cave, Leighton
Montano

2. Howell undesignated tax credit funds to purchase supplies for the student garden project.

Vote to use \$4000.00 from Howell undesignated tax credit funds to purchase supplies for the student garden project. Mrs. Cave motioned that we use \$4000.00 from Howell undesignated tax credit funds to purchase supplies for the student garden project. See discussion above.

Motion by Cave / Second by Nancy

Final Resolution – Motion passed.

Yes Votes – Alexander, Ginter, Huff, Cave, Leighton
Montano

VI. Adjournment: Mrs. Chacon adjourns meeting at 3:47 P.M. –
Next meeting is February 13th at 3:15.