

Emerson Elementary Eagles



School Community Council

Meeting Minutes

August 30, 2017

Emerson Library

5:30 PM

Attending:

Joselyn Bates, Suyin Chong, Marianne Erekson, Allison Nicholson, Joy Qiao, Sara Smith, Crystal Young-Otterstrom, Kim Korinek, April Reynolds, Kathleen Anderton, Elizabeth Silva, Julie Ban, Lori Swenson, Elizabeth Payne, Annie Leys, Colona Christensen

Principal's Report

April described the flooding that occurred over the summer, and said there was minimal damage compared to other schools in the district. There is new carpet in all the classrooms and a new kindergarten playground. She said the community garden is looking for volunteers. April thought the back to school night was a great success and that the PTA did a great job with the BBQ and building community. The school's staffing is almost complete, they are just looking for a few paraprofessionals. She also described the launch of the new math curriculum, Eureka Math, and information went home to parents, explaining how they can create an account. April also announced that Kelly Bowerman got Special Ed teacher of the year!

PTA Report

Elizabeth Payne reported that she and Colona Christensen are co-presidents of the PTA this year. One of PTA's goals this year is to improve communication. There is a new PTA website: emersonptasc.org, and you can get there from the main Emerson website. Another goal is to create more community building opportunities, and the back to school BBQ started that off. PTA does academic support, but wants to build school community more. They are thinking about adding a Math/Science night to the existing science night. They will also continue to support art night. PTA's first meeting is next week, and the walk-a-thon coming up on September 22nd. T-shirt sales are going on. Money is due this Friday.

SCC Membership and Terms

Allison gave a quick overview of the SCC, and also reviewed the membership of the current SCC. There are six terms up with probably 3 or 4 of those people interested in serving again. The group discussed how to recruit potential members, and wanted to bring this up at the Rico meeting. The group also walked through a possible timeline of when candidate interest forms could be due and when an election would be held, if needed.

SCC Planning and Calendar for the 2017-18 School Year

At its last meeting, the SCC had thought about changing from the 4th Wednesday of the month to the 3rd Wednesday. After looking at the calendar, the group decided that the 2nd Wednesday would be a good time to meet. Allison discussed the need to have additional position and duties on the SCC to spread out the workload. There would possibly be a chair, a chair-elect or vice chair, a secretary, and someone to schedule off-site meetings.

Planning for Annual Emerson Open House at Rico Warehouse

In discussing a possible format for the open house at Rico, the group thought that there could be introductions from PTA and SCC. Food would be served from 5:30 to 6:00, with the presentations beginning after that. Someone suggested having nametags for parents to get to know each other. There could also be some kind of "ice breaker" activity as a community builder and other way to get to know parents. The group decided that there would be roundtable discussion, in order to have small groups of parents discuss issues they care about and possibly help PTA and SCC shape agendas for the year, or generate priorities. Some ideas for roundtables were: behavior in the cafeteria, parking/traffic/idling in the morning, security in the building, bullying, teacher attrition/retention/support, using foods and sugar for recognition and rewards, arts in the schools, location of the SCC meeting, and school funding. We will try for interpreters at each table. People wanted to make sure it was communicated that the event was kid-friendly.

Crystal moved to approve the minutes, and Suyin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7 pm.