School Site Council (SSC)

Meeting MInutes for October 5, 2020

Meeting Date: October 5, 2020	Meeting Location: Virtual
Starting Time: 2:45pm	Ending Time: 4:00pm
Claudia Santos, Tahira Cunningham, Evelyn Baffico, Erika Martin	

Dr. Baffico called the meeting to order at 2:45pm.

Motion to approve minutes from February was made by Ms. Cunningham and seconded by Ms. Pagano-Trn.

Dr. Baffico reviewed the roles and responsibilities. She also explained some of the new expectations of the School Site Council as related to student and community needs. Based on feedback from the community, the group will vote to allocate money via Title One funding. The group will endeavor to meet once a month.

Dr. Baffico reviewed the Safe School Plan, which is a document that lists all procedures for keeping students and staff safe. Each staff member who has an active role has received documentation listing their responsibilities.

The group learned about the Site Plan, and ways to allocate money for student success. Last year our goals were related to underperforming students increasing scores in ELA and Math standardized tests. Another prior goal was to unify our community in culturally sensitive ways by partnering with parents to build school and community culture. Also, the group set a goal for reducing suspensions and increasing attendance last year prior to the closing of schools due to Covid-19.

Our school plan is currently put on hold due to the need to address learning continuity and attendance during virtual instruction. Once the board finalizes their decision, the SSC will have more information about the direction needed. Dr. Baffico asked for feedback as to how to gather data related to these goals. One idea she had was to open the feedback by utilizing social media structures already in place. Once the goals are identified, these could be shared on the platforms via a Google Form which would be submitted back to us and would help the group to develop their school plan. Another idea was for the Principal to integrate this conversation into her upcoming coffee with the community.

Dr. Baffico asked for feedback as to how students are utilizing virtual instruction. For example, is there too much screen time or too little screen time. There was a discussion on what was working well and what needed adjustment during this time of virtual instructions. There were concerns about the logistics of the online platform such as connectivity and the need for ethernet cables. There will be resources forthcoming from leadership students to help students engage socially, such as a lunch bunch.

There was a discussion as to the effectiveness of different virtual learning strategies. There was concern mentioned about the break in the middle of the day and extended screen time in the afternoon which could affect students' sleep patterns. Ideas were discussed as to better ways to utilize the independent work time. A change to move meetings to a later time in the day would also benefit teachers, as having professional development opportunities in the middle of the day can be difficult.

The next meeting will be November 2nd.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.