

Anvil City Science Academy

Minutes from APC meeting 10.3.19

Meeting started at 5:33pm

Members present: Nancy Bahnke, Becca Callahan, Lisa Leeper, Julie Kelso, Anna Moore, and Sean Knudsen.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

Minute approval from 6.13.19 was tabled.

Enrollment/Waiting Pool Update

Other than the lottery for the new slots at the beginning of the year, there has been no change to the Enrollment/Waiting Pool. At the beginning of the year, 2 siblings replaced students leaving and there was a lottery for a seventh-grade opening.

Budget Review

Lisa talked about moving money in the budget around to replace at least one promethean board with a new touch screen board. Another budget item was getting new chairs and the third budget item was the possibility of having to pay for an artist in residence this school year. An artist could cost upwards of \$4000, or around \$2500 if it was a local artist, Lisa stated. The group discussed possible outside sources that could help finance this: Bering Sea Lions Club, Nome Arts Council. Lisa also mentioned that she has a new aide (Jade Murdock) who is half time that is new to the budget this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Sexual Assault and Suicide Prevention Training

Lisa said Misty Tweet approached her about different trainings for the students. These trainings were on sexual assault and suicide prevention. Sexual assault would be only for seventh and eighth graders and provided by an officer and the Nome Police Department. Behavioral Health (BHS) providers would come in and talk to the students about suicide prevention. The group decided to get more information on the trainings, but were generally interested in having it for the students.

Proposed Beltz Middle School

Moving the sixth grade to Beltz has been an NPS proposal. What would the impacts be to ACSA? There was discussion about how that would look. Lisa mentioned that some problems of ACSA are that there are so many things to accomplish as a small school with a limited staff and that it is getting more difficult to find and retain good teachers. How could the ACSA program have sustainability?

System for School Success Overview

ACSA's overall School Index Value is 63.28 (out of 100). This value for Nome Elementary and Nome-Beltz is 18.21 and 41.92, respectively. Factors that play into this number are academic achievement, academic growth and absenteeism rate. Our growth is looking strong in comparison to Nome Elementary and Beltz. Our numbers at the beginning are on par with those schools, but we are seeing better numbers for growth. The percentage of students that miss less than ten percent of the school year for ACSA is 83% for 5th/6th grade and 90% for 7th/8th, compared to 50% for Nome Elementary.

Volunteers – background checks

Volunteers are rarely, if ever, in contact with students without staff present. One exception is our volunteers for lunchroom supervision at Nome-Beltz. Are background checks necessary? Suggestion was to at least do "court view" for regularly scheduled volunteers.

DC trip - policy for adults

The discussion on volunteers led to a side discussion of parents on the DC trip and whether they should be allowed to smoke or consume alcohol (for example, a beer at the baseball game) in the presence of students during the trip. The overall consensus is that there should be a written policy on this issue.

DC trip – use of fundraising for room deposit

Question arose as to whether students' DC fundraising that has been deposited in the district account may be used to pay the room deposit for the DC trip. In the past, parents have paid the deposits out of pocket, and have been reimbursed from fundraising shortly before the trip. The current 8th grade class has done a substantial amount of fundraising over the years and there is enough fundraising to pay the deposit. (This is not always the case.) Consensus was that parents may use these funds for their child's room deposit, but not their own, if they are also going on the trip. Parents that request fundraising to be used for their child's deposit will sign an agreement that they will reimburse the school for the deposit if the child ends up not going on the trip. This will in effect be consistent with past practice whereby parents were not reimbursed for their deposit if their child did not go on the trip. Several other issues arose as to use of fundraising for the DC trip and written policy is needed.

Nome Public Schools Board Report

Lisa reported to the board that we moved all our storage to new areas with the help of parent volunteers. The new admin assistant and campout were also mentioned in the report.

Next meeting

Next meeting will be 11/7/2019 at 5:30pm

Adjournment

Anna motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm. Sean seconded.