

Graham and Parks Alternative Public School
a pre-kindergarten through 5th grade
Cambridge, MA public school

School Council

Minutes for November 17th, 2022

6:00 – 7:00 pm in-person

School Council Meeting Norms

- Be punctual & prepared
- Be mindful of air time
- Avoid side bar conversations
- Assume positive intentions

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| 1. Meeting Convened | 6:00pm |
| 2. Introductions, Greetings, Review of Prior Minutes | 6:00 - 6:05 pm |
| 3. Principal's Report | 6:05 - 6:15 pm |
| a. Staffing & Professional development updates | |
| b. Facilities updates | |
| c. Health policy updates | |

Staffing

Some discussion about recent professional days I missed
Offer is out for 4th grade para

Health policy

- flu, RSV and colds are going around but majority of students are healthy
- COVID tests are being sent home for thanksgiving break
- if traveling out of state, encouraged to wear masks
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Goal: Keep the School Council informed of school happenings and areas of focus.

Outcome: This is an update.

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| 4. Family Engagement Update | 6:15 - 6:20 pm |
| <i>Goal: Keep the School Council informed of family engagement efforts.</i> | |
| <i>Outcome: Ensure procedures are in place to continue and expand on these efforts.</i> | |

Principal's coffee is Tuesday after thanksgiving

Will be indoors in the library

Kathleen will share updates and there will be time for questions

Same day - free food market from 1:30-3

Season of giving will be starting soon - call for gift cards for grocery stores for families in need

Kindergarten tours starting next week

2022-2023 Graham & Parks School Council Members

Administrative Appointees: Dr. Kathleen Smith – Principal; Raquel Furtado – Vice Principal;

Lauren Morse – Family Liaison; Jodi Rich – Community Representative

Educator and staff representatives: Debra Gadsen – Co-Chair, Melissa Mihos, Kaitlin Baumann, Stefanie Gardner

Family and caregiver representatives: Christian Henry – Co-Chair, Shawdee Eshghi - Secretary, Vivian Colon Pales – Hiring Committee, Jessica Britton, Khalid Iqbal

Thinking about a workshop with a representative from Parent Square- seems like there is some interest

Survey from the District

5. Entry Plan Findings 6:20 - 6:40 pm
 - a. Entry Plan Process
 - b. Summary of Findings
 - c. Next Steps

Overview

Phase 1 - July - design entry plan

Phase 2 - July - Sept - Staff interviews

Phase 3 - October - analysis

Phase 4 - Oct 31, 2022 - Staff meeting where information was shared and feedback solicited

Phase 5 - Nov-Jan - action plan

Equity in test scores - low income and Black students have much lower proficiency rates

This is not just relative to white and non low income students in the school but also relative to other low income and Black students across the state and within Cambridge

Area identified for improvement is multi tiered student support

- all students are in Tier 1- high quality instruction in the classroom
- there are other tiers for varying levels of support
- the multi-tiered support systems are not well coordinated and staff have reported negative consequences and requested help
- this were issues before pandemic and pandemic exacerbated these issues

6. Questions & community feedback 6:40 - 7:00 pm
7. Meeting adjourned 7:00 pm