

4/14/2021 Peabody School Council Agenda
Meeting time: Wednesday 4/14 7:30-9pm

Members present via Zoom: Interim Principal Bobby Tynes, Co-Chair Caregiver Rep Pam Pecchio, Teacher Reps: Kate Dunlevy, Katie Bach and Michelle Lippens, Caregiver Reps: Tina Lieu, Michale Simons, Community Reps: Peabody Family Liaison Nicole Sullivan, Fitzgerald Community School Director Carolyn Rodriguez

Meeting began at 7:50 after technical glitch

Due to late start, Council voted to prioritize agenda items that were time sensitive.

- **Report on expanded in-person learning and remote learners (Mr. Tynes)**
 - 4th grade came back (Ms. A remote) and working with Ms. Lippens and Ms. Leccese
 - Mr. D'Ab is back and working with a para
 - They enter in Door 29
 - Had one positive case in 4th
 - 5th grades (2 classrooms)
 - 28 students returned Mr. Kelly (MTh) and Mrs. Russell (TF) and swap Ws
 - Lukas (a para?) moved to ETS position
 - Maintaining 3' distancing in the 2 classrooms
 - Infection control team still meets weekly -- actively following up on safety measures being followed
 - Lunch is a challenge on inclement weather days, but managing by designating spaces
 - Expansion of RAUC in-person learning
 - Mr. Tynes working together with RAUC for a seamless transition. Will share tent, gym, auditorium and space out back.
 - Now at 118 consent forms for pool testing -- trying to get to 100%
 - Have discovered instructions are confusing though (for signing up to give consent) but the district is working on it. Wants to roll out campaign "jump in the pool [testing]"
 - Now trying to hire more paras as there have been absences (teachers getting shots etc.)
 - **Q. Is there a plan for specialist classes (music and art) to return in person for in-person kids?**

A. Some have medical accommodations, but are trying to get specialists to come teach in person. But it's a space issue because of the 3' distancing requirement
 - **Q. Heard you say we are up 17% who have sent in pool testing consent. What percentage have signed up?**

A. Now at 63%
 - **Q. Can we follow up with people who only signed one consent form (as it's confusing there are 2 to sign)**

A. I will look into this and what a parent said (about how it sounds like testing is mandatory) and it is stopping some from signing up for testing
 - **Q. Can the school provide more guidance on sunscreen and see if CHA can help? (Having a kindergartner she would need assistance with application)**

A. Sunscreen is a topical medication, so can support it but can't mandate or recommend applying it. Some are allergic to sunscreen so that is an issue, but we should be able to get that information. If there is a doctor's order for the nurse, we can apply, but recommend to apply a longer lasting waterproof sunscreen before school and wearing hats and long sleeves

○ **Q. Is there someone we can call at school about the covid permissions?**

A. Contact the school nurse. Yes, our permanent nurse is back abarandao@challiance.org
Mr. Tynes says to email him any questions if you have any.

- There are 2 consent forms 1 for pooled and 1 for a rapid antigen test (in case of positive case)
- Another is PCR -- student has symptoms -- this is separate permission
- Mr. Tynes say he will get that cleared up so that folks have a better understanding

● **Update on Principal Search (overview from the 4/13/ and 4/14 meetings re:timeline, involvement, etc)**

○ Timeline from district shared. Key dates are:

- April 8 - Announcement letter to families and staff
- April 13 - Faculty and Families meetings (8am staff, 3:30pm Families)
- April 14 - Family meeting (6:30pm)
- April 15 - Job will be posted (CPS website, Indeed, MASP, etc.)
- April 28 - Names of family and faculty representatives due (3 Family & 3 Staff)*
- April 30 - Deadline for school community to fill out the [Peabody Principal Search: Community Survey](#) -- survey results used to guide hiring committee
- May 6 - First screening of resumes (by hiring committee)
- May 12-14 - Candidate interviews (by hiring committee)
- May 17-19 - Potential community presentation
- May 20 - Cabinet interviews
- May 24-28 - Employment offered

**Names and emails of the reps emailed to Lisa Richardson*

○ Rep. Tina Lieu shared that she went through the same process at FMA for a principal search.

- Teachers organized themselves. They prioritized balanced representation. FMA chose three plus an alternate. Alternate was important because one parent had to recuse herself. Asked for parents to check off which criteria they filled.

○ Dr. Madera was asked at the district info session if we should/could use the three school council reps who were recently elected. She said it was up to us, but to make sure there is equity, and voices that are not usually heard are represented.

○ Proposed timeline to find parent reps:

- Parent groups meet 4/14 and 4/15 to make a plan
 - Get notices to Nicole asap, but hopefully by Friday
 - Friday nominations in
 - Send out Sunday night
- Q. Can the staff end also be balanced?**

A. Yes, but we have to leave that to the teachers

○ **Q. What's the plan to get the word out to families and caregivers who might not be represented at the school council meeting?**

A. Absolutely, robocalls, emails, etc. Use the orgs to organize, but get it out to the community.

- **Q. Nicole do we need to send you things by Friday (before April break)?**
A. I can be flexible, and will check my email every day while on break
- **Discuss Meeting Norms/Protocols**
 - **Q. Are small group of council members allowed to meet outside SC meetings?**
A. According to CPSD working groups are absolutely needed to meet to get things done and bring them back to council as long as there is not a quorum.
 - Was surprised to hear that parents had met, adding comments after the fact, it felt disjointed.
 - Usually there is a subcommittee set up if needed to work. Would have been nice to include teachers in brainstorming during than after the experience.
 - Parents don't get to see each other during the workday
 - Would parent and teacher reps meeting though violate the law as there would be a quorum
 - In the past SC has had very little participation, so things are different than they were before. Let's focus on that positive good path as SC didn't seem as inclusive in the past.
 - We all want to move SC forward and conversations and ideas are happening. Brainstorming is meant to create topics and move a group like ours forward. We can surely establish subgroups for future work. I don't want to stop the convos. We want them to move forward. As long as we are making the experience better for our children. Great we have so many folks tonight.
 - Suggestion for norms and protocols
 - Other board use Robert's rules although I don't like it
 - Let's set up a subgroup to work on norms and protocols: Katie, Pam, Nicole (happy to help), Michael
 - Subcommittee members do not need to be a voting School Council member
- **Discuss plans to improve family engagement -- i.e., a series of "networking meetings" for parents to meet and talk with/get to know the school leadership and teachers**
 - Example 1: hold it 3-4 weeks after expanded in-person as a check-in and social event
 - Example 2: hold it for entering kindergarten parents in May to "meet the community" -- have breakout rooms specific to different school organizations or on topics and new parents could freely circulate from "room to room" and talk to current parents, teachers, school leadership -- or outdoors in-person!
 - Most people like example 2 the best. Subcommittee being formed, bringing in Connections.
 - Lippens like this, if it is led by parents but supported by the school, that would be great.
 - Idea came out of edu-caregiver circles
 - Nicole not sure if being connected to Kindergarten Open House is the right place for it.
 - Subcommittee: Tina, Laurie, Bobby, Nicole
- **Things we can do as a community to support students make Ramadan easier**
 - Webinar by CPS staff was excellent and there are things that we can do.
 - There is space set up at library for kids to pray
 - Have been reading books to kids.
 - The library sent out a list of books that are in the library

- How are we going to do more of these religious observances. The more suggestions we can get -- gather more info about different cultures and different rituals (w/equity team) as we get this info how do we share this info w/the community?
 - Suggestion for an all-school assembly -- is there even a time to do that with current schedule? We need to continue to create information and have a protocol around that to bring that out.
 - Emphasis on educational rather than celebrating these events in our community so that we are more educated about the folks we are interacting with daily.
 - Appreciated Karim's email and some teachers have reached out to families to understand how to best support them. That was a nice way to be educated and learn to support students.
 - Need to continue to gather accurate info
- **Announcements/News from other school groups**
 - **Suggested agenda items for next meetings: May 5, June 2, 7-8:30pm**
 - Whether to record SC meetings or not as it requires the permission of participants to record.
 - Move to May meeting: Discuss how to share information about major cultural/religious events pertinent to the community. Education, not a celebration. For example, Ramadan begins April 13 -- In many schools they usually do an informational session about Ramadan so that students feel appreciated.
 - Communication Accessibility to Improve Family Engagement and Equity
 - Update on District-Wide School Council Working Group