

Graham and Parks School

Cambridge Public Schools JK-5

Steering Committee

9 December 2021

7:00 – 8:00 pm

Steering Committee Meeting Norms

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

Committee members in attendance:

Administrative Appointees:

Claudie Jean-Baptiste - Interim Principal
Jennifer Lavallo - Interim Assistant Principal
Lauren Morse - Family Liaison

Teacher Representatives:

Karima Cherguauoui - Co-Chair
Erin Garcia
Katie Lynch
Melissa Mihos

Parent Representatives ([bios here](#)):

Kris Dickson - Co-Chair
Shawdee Eshghi - Secretary
Christian Henry
Vivian Pales - Hiring Committee Rep

Other Attendees:

Jessica Britton
Ena Valenzuela
Mildrid Gedeon - G&P family liaison
Laura Pirani
Tom Burke
Debbie Sullivan
Christopher Sokolowski
Mary Gallagher
Jodi Rich - Community Representative
Maia McAleavey

Not in attendance:

Meeting Convened, Introductions & Greetings | 7:01 pm

1. Introductions

2. Principal's Report | 7:09 pm

Hiring

- interviewing PE teacher tomorrow
- last week interviewed for extra para and advanced to HR, waiting for it to be approved
 - currently have no building subs

COVID

- higher positivity rate later
- more close contacts so encouraging families to take advantage of Test and Stay program
- Nurses are putting in a lot of extra work
- No changes to COVID policies yet for <12 year old vaccinated kids
- Families should upload their vaccination cards to the portal

3. 5th student council report | 7:15

- two meetings so far
- made signs around animal waste to go up soon

- looking at fundraising for field trips
- they want napkins with their lunch but this is not possible
- learning about shortages of foods delivered to the school
- their January meeting is open to all but others will not have voting privileges
- recess survey in progress
- 4. School Committee updates
 - participatory budget voting ongoing now - 6th grade and up can vote
 - clothing donation bins will be going up soon; school gets a fraction of the proceeds
 - Nov 29 joint school committee + election commission meeting
 - strong request from G&P to not have polling location at the school but doesn't seem like there will be a change at this time
 - this meeting was recorded so interested folks can watch the discussion
 - important for parents to share feedback if they want to see this situation changed
 - Dec 2 meeting
 - 117 overall cases this year; 70% of them in K-5th grade
 - 50% of total numbers are students
 - still no school transmission seen
 - 55% of K-5 eligible students have been vaccinated
 - Dec 7 meeting
 - SEL and mental health
 - Alice Cohen spoke; she is excellent
 - Universal SEL screener across district for the first time; 8 questions for the teachers using a standard framework
- 5. G&P school gear
 - Friends of G&P raises funds for school but this is not a fundraiser
 - Usually lose money doing this
 - This year limited supplies because of problems with vendor
 - There will be an order form in January
 - Also considering a survey to understand what families want - it takes a lot of time from Friends of G&P even though it's not a fundraiser
- 6. SEI update
 - Access testing happening January 6-Feb 10
 - Test takes 4 days, 1 hr/day - Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking
 - Results to parents in late May/early June
 - There will be a presentation on Tuesday at 7 pm
- 7. School Improvement Plan (SIP)
 - Early stage planning - will go out to staff tomorrow
 - Presenting to district next week
 - 2 year plan
 - Slides can be shared after SIP finalized
 - Discussion around goal to increase MCAS scores all around
 - how is data collected on student progress? Answer is 1:1 interventions
 - focus on academic vocabulary to allow students to know what is being asked
 - interventions in younger grades

This meeting is an open public meeting. Please join us at 7pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month September-June, exclusively by zoom until further notice.