

CTA-Liberty Site Council (SiC) Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, September 13, 2016 3:05-4:00pm in the Library

Member Attendance:

Staff/Teachers: Dr. Bader, Caitlin Racco (5), Cindy O'Dell (4), Valerie Willis (3) Natalie Johnson (2), Joy Martin (1), Kristi Moreno (1), Alison Wilson (K), Dalene Husky.

Parents: Marsha Anders, Kelly Chandler, Suzanne Ford, Divya Marwaha, Shauna Moore, Melissa Ravelli, Melissa Read.

Guests/Others: Kenneth deLoera

Call meeting to order/Introductions

By Melissa Read

Ice-Breaker: Brainstorming Site Council Priorities for 2016-17

- Most important is shared governance and wisdom of the group; parents, teachers, and community members*
- Strengthen the DLI and Spalding programs*
- Working on building community for the new students and new neighbors of Liberty family to foster community within the DLI and English only programs.*
- Sense of how parents and teachers come together as a unit.*
- Anywhere music can be a part of what students do, Ms. Husky is willing to make and keep that an option*
- Parental involvement – to think outside of the box*
- Strong communication between parents and teachers*
- Improvements in bridging the gap between grade levels – parents would have liked to see this last year. A shared view of different teaching methods and communicate that to the parents across grade levels*
- Shared learning among schools.*
- Improvements in our school's technology.*

Current Topics:

-Extra-Curricular Activity (ECA) fees & Field Trip spending approval (tax credit budget) due 9/30

Principal Bader presented Tax Credit policies and procedures and provided a financial report detailing the actual general tax credit expenditures for July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016. The Site Council members approved the expenditures.

*Principal Bader presented Tax Credit policies and procedures and gave an overview of the areas upon which CTA Liberty has been or will be spending 2016/17 Tax Credit monies, including: grade level field trips; transportation for field trips; Student Activity clubs (Journalism, Running, FLL Robotics, Safety Patrol, and Student Council.); Co-Curricular areas including band, orchestra and choir; Art Masterpiece, and Spelling Bee Programs; and fees for extracurricular activities or programs for which payment would represent an economic hardship for a student.** Site*

Council agreed that the above mentioned items were appropriate for the spending of general tax credit monies, retroactive to July 1, 2016.

Category A and D fees applicable to Running Club (every grade level); Field trips:

Kinder 2 field trips

1st grade Valley Youth Theater

2nd grade Superstition Farms and Arizona Natural History Museum

3rd grade Phx Zoo and AMC theater

4th Grade Kartchner Caverns and another Spring trip

5th grade AZ Science Center and Child's Play

6th grade Science Camp and other option

-Melissa Read signs Approval form

-CUSD surveys for parents (examples from other CUSD elementary schools) due 10/21

There will be a template of questions created by volunteers. Questions need to be submitted by Oct. 21. Other schools' questions can be reviewed as suggestions. We can get more specific with our questions. A subcommittee will be put together for review of other school's surveys (Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Anders). Include questions related to office staff since there are 2 new staff members. There should also be questions related to STEM, DLI, Music program, etc. Do not keep the length too long.

-Robotics Club: next meeting 9/15 at 4pm with Perry H.S. & Kinsey Welsh (advisor)

The project this year is called Animal Allies. We have about 30 students interested in the club. 3 teams expected. Contracts should have been returned to teachers. The project will entail students to come up with a problem regarding animals and a solution to that problem. The students will use the FLL kit to create a robot that will perform tasks on a designated mat. The heart of the project is teamwork and collaboration.

-Science options (AZ Sci Center programs, Basha H.S. club, Chandler Library: Mobile Makers = class-in-a-box)

Parents think it is important to get the little kids interested and involved in something science related so that they will continue their interest for the future grades. It is a good initiation for them. Because of our location, we will be partnered with Basha High Library or the Chandler Downtown location for these science programs. The concern is making time for these within the classroom. It is possible for Basha HS to bring their science club to our school. The AZ Science Center also has programs like a lesson in a box, where the fee is \$10-20 per student. From Mrs. Willis - SRP offers a 3-6 program, in-services, resources, and goodies for teachers to bring back to students. They also offer a \$350 grant to teachers to do so. Mrs. Willis was given info on how to make real life connections with students using manipulatives and kick start how kids can be energy efficient in the future.

-World-Languages & Dual-Language Immersion (DLI) updates; November social events (11/4 & 11/18)

Social events are sponsored by the parents of the DLI (Los Padres) for Fri. Nov. 4th for 1st grade and Nov. 18th for 2nd grade. Katia teaches the world language and the students are making great progress. She comes in 15 mins every day. Tracey Pastor – the world language coordinator at the district, brings a lot of experience. Guidelines for possibly testing into the program are being discussed at this time. It is not prudent to make Kindergarten a 50/50 at this time. Kinder has given a lot of feedback and recommendations to the DLI instructors. Kinder will also be conducting a survey of parents interested in DLI for next year.

-Student Council proposed dates for social events this semester (10/28; 12/2 or 12/9)
These will be outside of school. The events are still TBD.

-Journey 2025 (review at November mtg.; approve at December mtg.)
The action plan has long term and short term goals.

-Updates to policy: homework after absence

Managing the HW for the sick and vacationing students is an issue. Parents disagree with this policy because teachers pulling the students back after they return to catch them up on the lessons they missed, isn't really feasible, and since there are so many assessments, do the students get a chance to push the tests back or eliminate the test because they don't know the material? Parents do not agree with not giving them the option to at least have something to do ahead of time so the student doesn't fall behind. Can teachers give an online option to print out the HW or lessons? Dr. Bader's concern is that it has become unmanageable in the front office and with the teachers, to promptly provide the HW or lessons prior to the student leaving. She will be bringing this concern to the faculty on the next faculty meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 20th to see if we can improve with a balance.

Previous Meeting Updates:

- *MPR (pull-down screen, sound system)
- *PTO approved purchases (tables, benches, evacuation "go bags")
- *Evacuation/Lockdown drill for Oct. 26
- *WIFI quality during school & after school, COW laptops login concerns
- *AM Tutoring concerns with students being dropped off too early – cars here for the AM tutoring are OK to go in and drop off, but those that are not here for that will be given clarification to not do so, or given the suggestion to sign up for Kids Express. The days we will monitor this are Thurs, Fri., and Mon.

Open Topics/Help-Needed:

*Spirit Days vs. Spirit Week (Melissa Ravelli)

Some parents want a week to thank and celebrate the kids for doing well. Some think a week of activities/fun out of the ordinary things might distract the students. Dr. Bader will bring this concern to the faculty at the next meeting next Tuesday the 20th and then also propose it to Student Council.

*6th Grade Promotion – planning meeting 9/19 at 3:05pm in library (Amy Stringer)

*Future Meetings: 3:05pm on Nov. 8 & Dec. 13