

CTA-Liberty Site Council (SiC) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2016 3:05-4:00pm in the Library

Member Attendance:

Staff/Teachers: Dr. Bader, Nona Scott (6), Caitlin Racco (5), Cindy O'Dell (4), Valerie Willis (3) Natalie Johnson (2), Joy Martin (1), Kristi Moreno (1), Alison Wilson (K).

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

Guests/Others: n/a

Meeting called to order: 3:05pm (Intros/Icebreaker postponed until Dec. meeting)

Current Topics:

- Journey 2025: Action Plan; Community Engagement review at 12/13 mtg.

Each school in the district has a documented action plan for goals and objectives. CTA-Liberty has a 16-page plan. Melissa Ravelli suggested this be emailed to Site Council parents. We reviewed p.5 with Learner-Centered Problem: focus on informative texts (comprehension reading for all subjects including math, science, social studies, etc). Sydna Zilm is also providing Spalding training (10 hours) this year to faculty.

- District Initiative: "Acts of Kindness" quarterly student recognition program.

New award created by Dr. Casteel for CUSD schools to recognize kindness in character. Quarterly award for selected student include: tablet/e-reader. Options to select this student include: Teacher nominations, peer nominations, Kindness Tree (Alison Wilson), Bucket-filler (Melissa Ravelli), Eagle Eye awards (Dr. Bader).

- Spirit Days:

Ideas were shared in hand-outs from CTA-Liberty faculty, including themes that support the school's values. We can review suggestions at next month's meeting. Amy Stringer recommended grade level options, including special shirts unique for each grade, like 6th grade has. Several dress-up days are already in place for each grade (K: Pajamas for Dr. Seuss, 1st: Penguins, 2nd: Western Cowboys, etc).

- Homework Policy for Student Absences:

Previous concern was front-office staff and teachers were receiving numerous requests for providing homework to parents of absent students. Current policy requests that students receive homework assignments and instruction after returning from absence. Faculty reviewed policy and determined that each grade-level is handling any exceptions as case-by-case basis. Kelly Chandler suggested that grade-level newsletters/websites communicate this to parents.

- Robotics future opportunities:

Currently 21 students from 5th and 6th grade are involved in Robotics at CTA-Liberty, making 3 teams this year. Caitlin Racco explained that last weekend 6 students

attended a mock-competition, and watched other teams compete in a scrimmage. The teachers will send a letter to parents requesting parent-help and will plan for an additional weekday to meet after school to support this year's 3 teams.

- COWs (Computers on Wheels) student-training postponed to 11/29:
30 Laptops per grade for 3rd-6th planned for this year (windows, outlook, microsoft office). Also, Valerie Willis explained that each teacher/student in the district has access to (up to) 5 licenses for school and home devices.

Updates:

-World-Languages & Dual-Language Immersion (DLI) updates:

~World Languages: New teacher training for certification to instruct languages for K, 1st, 2nd.

~DLI: Los Padres parents (1st grade) sponsored and donated items for "Dia de los Muertos" social event on 11/4. Los Padres parents (2nd grade) have event scheduled with Spain-theme for 11/18. Plans for Los Padres parent to be included in PTO Board.

~Exploring options to expand DLI events to the entire school, possible support/funding from PTO. Dr. Bader plans to invite K & 1st grade parents to informational meeting for opportunities to get involved with various school functions.

-CUSD surveys for parents:

Liberty's questions compiled by parent committee using other schools' examples and submitted to District prior to 10/21 deadline. District emails parents in 3rd quarter.

-Safety/Security: Evacuation Drill completed (10/26); morning drop-off update

~Evacuation drill successful with compliments from CUSD school safety officers and Chandler P.D. sergeant (despite grass-watering sprinklers unexpected at the park).

~Morning drop-off: improved, with less parents trying to drop-off students before 7:45am. Ongoing gentle reminders to drivers as enforcement.

-Science/STEM initiatives:

~Science Camp update: very positive experience, learning supported curriculum objectives (ELA, Math, Science), small and large group activities were fun for students, plans for next year 6th grade already reserved for second week in Sept. This year, tax-credit donations directed to 6th grade allowed sufficient funding for attending students.

~Modified 6th grade teaching: Melissa Lerma now also teaching social studies to all 6th graders, continuing to use science-lab and experiments regularly, Egypt dress-up Thursday 11/10.

Open Topics/Help-Needed: n/a

Future Meetings: 3:05pm Dec. 13