

# School Effectiveness Team Meeting notes, 11/17/2020

Nathan Warnberg, Secretary

## In Attendance

Quorum is present (at least 2/3 of the board members and one teacher)

- Brian Merkey (Acting President)
- Nell Saunders-Scott (Treasurer)
- Nathan Warnberg (Secretary)
- Amy Merkey
- Beth Crammond
- Laura Huber (CM Principal)
- Mariah Bigelow (CM)
- Deanna Maynard (Community Representative, UWL)
- Josh Shively
- Delaney Orr (CH)
- Guests
  - Shelley Shirel (Prior Principal fo Spence, Director of Elementary Ed, Supervisor of 4k programming)

## Abbreviations

- School Effectiveness Team (SET)
- Coulee Montessori (CM), grades 4K - 5
- Coulee Montessori Adolescent Program (CMAP), grades 6 - 8
- Children's House (CH), 4K and Kindergarten
- Elementary One (E1), grades 1 - 3
- Elementary Two (E2), grades 4 -5
- North Side Elementary (NS)
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Department of Public Instruction (DPI)
- CRVA (Coulee Region Virtual Academy)

## Call to order

- Meeting called to order at 5:33pm by Acting President Brian Merkey via Zoom.
- Introductions
- Approval of agenda/additions

## Public Comments/Guests

- Discussion of messaging about Choice and Charter with Shelley Shirel
- Typically create brochures with options
- Marketing type fair at public library January (2020), seemed to be a good turnout - I do not think we knew about this
- Want to work more with Nick Marcou on marketing
- The district realizes many of our schools are well-kept secrets, they want this to change.
- Priority placement window that has typically opened in December is no longer an option
- This window must coincide with open enrollment window
- So new window for Choice/Charter/Open Enrollment will all be from February - April 30
- This will allow for January to be focused on marketing and educating the public
- We should address some of the misconceptions about Choice and Charter, for example that Choice/Charter is not private
- March parent/teacher conferences could be a good avenue to educate parents about choice/charter options
- In our charter, we give preference to families that are currently enrolled, that might go against new policies
- Once a student is in a program they will stay in that program (unless they elect to leave). So the new policies are only going to affect students getting into the program initially.
- The letter that has been sent out is a legacy document, they will look into the wording and encourage Choice/Charter over Boundary schools.
- Typically, Laura Huber typically sends a follow up letter after the district letter goes out but the different timeline this year has thrown several things off.
- There also needs to be a bit of a better handoff from elementary to middle school (and really from middle school to high school).
- Can we get a letter just for CM 4k students and withhold the letter from the district
- Can we get information to the 3 and 4 year old daycare programs? Yes, the district already does this and we will try and maybe emphasize Choice/Charter options.
- Roughly, 50% of 4k students moved into their corresponding kindergarten program, so the district should make an extra effort to hit the model 3 sites
- We might be able to update some of our old videos, maybe Nick Marcou can put each of the elementary schools on some sort of rotation (maybe an updated video every 3 - 4 years).
- Send Shelly Shirel a quick synopsis to go in the brochure that may or may not be used in marketing. This was created by Laura Huber with the help of Nikki Rislow.
- Can we get UWL students involved to help us produce a video?

## **Officer Reports**

### **Secretary's Report**

- Brian moves to approve the 10/20/2020 minutes as is, Nell seconds, passes unanimously.

### **Principal's Report**

- Laura Huber (CM Principal)
  - CRVA - Montessori will be getting a letter and/or survey about continuing. We will also probably be getting a second letter from the district that should be ignored.
  - We must get the word out to other Montessori community
  - Josh cannot have more than 20 students back at school, this is the big limiting factor
  - Give constructive feedback when the survey comes out
  - Laura may call on us to start contacting some of the families to get that feedback ASAP.

### **Treasurers report**

- Nell moved to approve up to 6 teachers to attend the Montessori Conference, \$80 each, so up to \$480 dollars, Brian seconded, approved unanimously.
- Our fundraising is not going well, we are going to

## **Specific Business**

### **Slack and emails responses**

- Please respond to these things.

### **Enrollment**

- Our numbers are down.

### **Annika message/gift**

- Coordinate a message and giftcard

### **Fundraising Discussion**

- Merchandise - this is a wash, we actually lost money but the Merkey's will generously pay for this.
- Can we get a list of discrete things that cost a certain amount and put that in a list in a direct appeal to parents? Yes, teachers will get back to us.
- Read-A-Thon - ramping up this month
- Restaurants - probably not going to work this year

## **Outreach Discussion**

- See the notes on the discussion with Shelley Shirel

## **Meeting with Dr. Engel**

- Discussed presentation

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Brian, seconded by Nathan at 7:19 pm, passes unanimously.