



O'Keeffe PTG Meeting - Minutes

Wednesday February 10, 2021 6:30-7:30pm

Email: okeeffeptg@gmail.com

Web: www.okeeffeptg.com

All O'Keeffe families and staff are welcome at the O'Keeffe PTG Meetings, and they are open to the public. Please note that agenda items in bold may be voted on. Have something you want on the agenda to discuss? Please let us know! You can be present to lead the discussion, or just bring up the topic, or even submit anonymously.

ATTENDING

Board Members

Gideon Amoah
Maria Banchik
Kate Brunner
Jo Ann Kraus
Cheryl Kyles
Sheila Lenius
Grant Samuelson
Stephanie Steigerwaldt

O'Keeffe Staff

Tony Dugas (Principal)
Emily Koch (Assistant Principal)
Amy Poole (Social Worker)

Guest Speakers

Sami Head (Social Worker, Lindbergh Elementary)
Laura Glaub (Social Worker, Thoreau Elementary)

O'Keeffe Community Members

Heather Brandt
Jessie Coleman
Aaron Decker
Scott Feiner
Nina Lebwohl
Susan Ramspacher

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Mr. Dugas remarked that staff have been able to visit more classes than when in person instruction, and that one priority is to ensure that staff are not overloaded with information.

The staff is currently focusing on increasing levels of literacy and increasing staff capacity to support higher levels of foundational reading. O'Keeffe is also focusing on "math language," and in particular the emotional/social learning aspect of school. He noted that even when students come back there will be a "re-learning" curve - getting acclimated to being back in school. He also remarked that a positive aspect of Covid-era instruction is hearing teachers talking about student effort and looking at how they grade - what do grades actually mean? What does it actually say about what students are learning?



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Mr Dugas shared a Powerpoint addressing the district's reopening strategy from superintendent Jenkins. Major points as follows:

- Based on public health metrics, the decision has been made to phase back into building
- Questions remain about how comfortable staff will be about returning to in-person
- Vaccinations are beginning, but the district has no control over schedule
- Plan: phased return to school
 - In person instruction starts March 9 with K, followed by first/second grades on March 16, and 4K on March 23
 - Other grades TBD after spring break
 - Virtual asynchronous days move to Monday on March 8
- After phased return, teachers will teach hybrid: in-person and streaming to those who opt to stay home, teachers will continue using schedule for virtual learning to provide continuity, and Encore classes will continue to be virtual
- Enrollment
 - Survey to be distributed 3/17 to determine who will be in person
- Preparation of building will include readily available sanitization supplies, no more than 15 desks in classes, staff training in identifying Covid symptoms, and close management of outdoor spaces. Gym will be used for storage.
- Questions from attendees included:
 - When will small group after school activities return? (no current plans)
 - Will later start-time continue? (parents can/should weigh in)
 - Maintaining classroom limits: what if majority opt to return? (may use A/B days)
 - Will survey specifically ask about start-times? (Unsure. Tony will follow up)
 - **ACTION ITEM: Should PTG survey parents about start-time?**

GUEST SPEAKERS: SAMI HEAD AND LAURA GLAUB

West Area Collaborative

- Connecting students in feeder patterns
- Joining Forces for Families
- Trying to "close the gap between people and resources"
- Opportunity to leverage schools as centers of communities
- Social workers identify needs, connect families with resources
- Traditional way of helping is "topical"
 - Don't want to require families to "know someone" - the system should be positioned to deliver for all - programs must scale-up to meet needs
- **ACTION ITEM: West Area Collaborative Interested in PTO/PTG partner to assist in coordinating intake of funds and act as a fiscal agent**
- **ACTION ITEM: small group meeting proposed to discuss collaboration**

OTHER BUSINESS

Stephanie Steigerwaldt proposed a teacher appreciation activity involving a Zoom screen capture. Still TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35PM