

**Mammoth Heights Elementary
School Accountability Committee
2015-2016**

Date: February 3, 2016

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Location: MHE Learning Commons

Attendance: Jennifer Dickman, Courtney O'Donnell, Brenda VanDyke, Ed Goulart, Nikki Turner, Kiersten Hall, Kate Kraz, Catherine Lawrence, Jeanne Graham, Shanna Martin, Rick Graves, Denise O'Leary, Jane Gagliardi, Eve Crowley, Jeannie Carberry, Brooke Neff, Kathy Brown, Kelly Mullins,

Agenda

1. Welcome & introductions – *(Rick Graves-Chairperson)* 6:30-6:40

- Purpose of SAC - provide input and recommendations to school administration (budget, enrollment, curriculum, test results review) - advisory in nature.
- Approve minutes from December 2, 2015 (voting members vote) - approved! Minutes will be posted.

2. Teacher report – *(Ed Goulart-teacher rep)* 6:40-6:45

A lot has been going on: regular business. EPRs done by all teachers and released to parents in December. Parents accessed via Parent Portal. Jan 15 - PLC day with differentiated classes (some here at MHE and some at CHS).

3. District Accountability Committee (DAC) report – *(Aaron McLean-DAC rep)* 6:45-6:50

DAC liaison will no longer be Mr. McLean. Shanna Martin provided a DAC update. Most recent information is around budget priorities, esp re: enrollment and teacher priorities. DAC needs input about budget and district spending (this is a new opportunity this year). They are also looking over the director of CITE (teacher eval) and principal eval tool; they are asking for feedback. Brian W is leading the evaluation feedback.

On Tuesday (6:30-8:30) at Rocky Heights MS there will be a forum with feeder groups regarding parent engagement policy. There is supposed to be a district policy as part of Senate bill 193. We don't have title I schools, so a group of parents will talk about what they would like seen in a document. Do we need a document? Do we need something different than Title I schools have? This will come from PARENTS and they will decide how to proceed. Templates have been provided to help with the process. CDE person will be there as well to give guidance. The goal is to make sure parent input is heard. The ideas will then be presented to the board. We don't know who the parent group will include at this time - so far just an open meeting. Parent voices may differ by feeder group - but we won't know until a meeting is held. The first meeting

was really just a focus group, and now using DAC forum with feeders, there is a time frame to discuss budget and the need for this new forum.

Newsletter going out this week will ask for people interested in DAC. Then SAC would vote on the DAC rep.

4. PTO Organization (PTO) report – (*Kate Kraz-PTO rep*) 6:50-6:55

Items granted: eye dissection materials, reading recovery, CCIRA conference (literacy) for 7 teachers. Fundraisers - \$1000 more than expected for Fun Run. Holiday shop \$900 earned over budget projected. Valentines sales will fund Compassion Project. Staff appreciation. Box tops. Discussing parent survey about PTO fundraising. Technology budget needed. 6th grade 80/20 project - fund Gaga ball pit; raised \$1,100 so far (need about \$3,000 to build it) and would build in the spring.

5. Key agenda item #1 – (*Shanna Martin*) 6:55-7:20

- Budget and Enrollment:
 - Shared information with teachers and staff; input was collected by staff reps
 - Enrollment history and projection (higher this year than was projected). Charter schools opened and created steady decline in enrollment.
 - This year projected at 708 for next school year. New charter (performing arts) opening in the fall.
 - Currently kindie enrollment is 57 - but this typically rises significantly throughout the spring.
 - Admin can negotiated this number as needed.
 - Intent to return forms have been sent home
 - Second round of open enrollment will open soon - some families are already on wait list.
 - Look at disenrollment each year; most are going into 1st grade and going into 6th grade. Kids are going to charters or moving away from district.
 - Looked at class sizes and number of classes based on projections; have to find a balance between class size and staffing. Possible changes in number of classes: 1st/2nd/3rd going to 5 sections? Likely to keep 4 sections of 4th grade; 5th likely go to 5 sections; 6th likely to stay at 4 sections.
 - Budget - nondiscretionary - can only be used for specified costs (SSN, principal, SLP, ESL, psychologists, etc). Cannot add extra using school funds. We are increasing to 2 learning specialists; ESL up to 1.0 teacher; Reading recovery going down to 1.0 staff member.
 - Budget - discretionary - some is allocated by district, but school decides where to put the money. Ex: Asst principal at .7 (fund extra to get 1.0):
 - teachers
 - interventionist
 - assistant principal

- counselor
 - learning specialist
 - supplies
 - office staff
 - professional dev
 - furniture
 - EAs
- We get \$3907 per student as a school (discretionary funds) - 97% goes to staffing; kindies get part-time funding for the school. 45 certified staff - approximately.
 - If more kids enroll by Oct 1, we get more money based on enrollment (compared to projections). Schools have to return money if we are under the projected enrollment. Cushion of 3 students.
- Staff gave input about where to put monies. Highest priorities: small class size, full time AP support, mental health, interventionist (GT, RTI, READ act).
 - school counselor has many layers of support, esp proactive support
- What does district provide re: technology? Not much. Technology rotation fund after 6 years - district then gives partial monies to replace tech.
 - PTO provides a lot of tech support funds
- Finalize budget priorities (SAC): how much/who does the new counselor support? On-going safety support. Resource officer here twice daily - but this is not paid by MHE; not sure how they are paid.
 - budget updates will be given as needed

6. Key agenda item #2 – (*Kiersten Hall*) 7:20-7:40

- PARCC Results from 15-16 school year
 - Letters were sent out recently to parents and some in the newsletter as well.
 - LA
 - 6th grade - exceeded district and state average (met expectations)
 - 5th grade - approaching expectations
 - 4th - met expectations (exceeded state and district)
 - 3rd -
 - Math
 - 6th - approaching expectations
 - 5th - approaching
 - 4th - approaching
 - 3rd - approaching
 - If students opt out - they can stay somewhere in the school (but not in classrooms during testing); little staff available to accommodate kids who come to school and are not testing.
 - Opting out does not hurt the school unless it reaches a certain percentage
 - Times of testing were shared in newsletter
 - Feedback: last year the communication re: dates and times could have been improved

- CMAS (4th grade Social Studies) - MHE scored higher than state and district average (approx 6-7% students performed “weakly”)
 - History, geography, economics, and civics
 - This year our students will not have to test CMAS Social Studies
- CMAS (5th grade Science) - below district but above state average
 - 5th grade has to test this year
- Spring Assessment Calendar for MHE - before and after spring break; 2 hour time frames to cushion the testing sessions
 - PARCC:
 - March 14-16 ELA (mornings) - before break
 - April 5-8 Math (mornings) - after spring break
 - CMAS April 11-13 (Science)

7. Key agenda item #3 – *(BLT Team Members)* 7:40-7:45

- Review current MHE goals of Building Leadership Team
 - UIP goal continues around math and writing
 - Professional dev offerings will be in writing
 - Integrated learning and fluid assessments that are personalized to students
 - Measure: grade level matrix for GVCs (curriculum map for the year)
 - Classroom feedback - mid year conferences with admin
 - Assessment practices - triangulate the data; different tools to assess and analyze students
 - Body of evidence to set growth targets for end of year
 - Personalized learning and safety
 - RTI data/MTSS (all kids receive what they need)
 - Last year, 17 kids brought to RTI:11 were IEP; 1 was 504; 3 moved;2 monitored
 - safety drills
 - Staff and student surveys being developed on climate, culture and safety (rating scale 1-5)
 - Questions and scale may be revised for staff survey
 - How can we get staff to score the results higher across the board

8. Open forum for guests – *(Rick Graves)* 7:45-8:00

- Safety concerns:
 - Eve Crowley: Social media about MHE: music teacher leaving with the resignation letter reportedly being changed; parents want to be able to trust the administration. Conversations need to be kept confidential regarding resignations. Concerned that email was changed and looks dishonest. Admin could be sued for sharing conversations that are personal and confidential. Parent (Eve) feels we need to address social media concerns that make our culture and climate look poor ; need a balance. Our school is constantly being posted about. How should we respond when things are posted online. Shanna

reports that staff survey was done to address climate and culture and overall it was very positive; this includes trust issues. Admin uses feedback to help guide teachers and dialogue as needed. Question to validity of social media. Eve's feedback: Shanna should be aware of social media posts and address it to the community. Address the issue of why are we seeing negative posts on social media. Bring back more professionalism to the school. How can this be done? If you respond to it, do you validate it? How can we engage in healthy dialogue rather than feed the negative beast? Rick's take - don't always take things at face value. It was a personnel action and doesn't belong on social media. We can't chase down social media or even try to defend it. Eve would like to feel that there is a more healthy dialogue. She appreciates that Shanna is willing to sit down and talk. Rick - this topic is beyond our scope as SAC. What more can be done?

- Eve would like a future agenda about how to improve climate, culture and trust in the building. What can be done as a group? Eve has heard mixed reviews about surveys being anonymous. Some parents, staff and admin are afraid to speak up (both sides) in the district. Shanna reports that staff is frustrated that parents are posting things on social media that are not always truthful. Have more teachers and parents at SAC meeting.

- Community input

Meeting adjourned: 8:15 pm

Next meeting:

Wednesday, March 2, 2016 @ 6:30