

## **Esther Jackson Elementary School Governance Council**

Minutes for January 23, 2020

**Members Present:** Regina Bowie, Nikol Boyd, Rachael Lee, Erin Shurbutt, Mike Thomas, Emilie Long, Juliana Pedraza, Kim Sonderman

**Members Absent:** Helen Loiacono

**Guest(s):** James Holle, Jennifer Holle, Erin King

**Call to Order:** At 5:04 pm the meeting was called to order.  
No public in attendance for public comment.

### **Approve Agenda:**

- Rachael Lee motioned to approve the agenda and Emilie Long seconded.

### **Approve Minutes:**

- Regina Bowie motioned to approve the minutes and Mike Thomas seconded.

### **Public Comment- Esther Jackson Elementary Foundation:**

- James and Jennifer Holle presented their ideas for a revitalized Esther Jackson Elementary Foundation to the Council.
- The foundation previously existed to provide overall support to the school. It has been inactive for several years although the 501(c)(3) is still set-up.
- The vision is to utilize the foundation to support the families of Esther Jackson Elementary in a neighbor helping neighbors initiative.
- The EJ Foundation would like to help with tutoring, bill pay, transportation, as well as food and clothing drives, as well as other needs that arise.
- The Holle's are currently working on assembling a board of directors that will determine the next steps in re-launching the foundation.

### **Business:**

- The Outreach Committee provided a summary from meeting and presented the council with plans for upcoming Community Partners School Tour to take place February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  - Invitations will be ready to be hand delivered by January 30<sup>th</sup>. A follow-up email will be sent to all invited participants prior to the February 15<sup>th</sup> RSVP deadline.

- Student Council representatives will be involved in greeting the guests and discussing important initiatives. They will also help with distributing the thank you gifts -jaguar paw cookies donated by Pretty Baked and customized commuter mugs made by Erin Shurbutt.
- Coffee, fruit, and pastries will be set-up in the lobby for guests to enjoy during the open networking portion.
- The tour route was finalized and Emilie Long will provide staff members with an overview of expectations and guidance of what to say if their classroom is a tour stop.
- Plans for the SGC elections include:
  - Handing out flyers during carpool.
  - Social media announcements with videos from current and past council members.
  - Information with link to be distributed in upcoming principal's letter.

**Strategic Plan Monitoring Tool Discussion:** People and Culture

- The Council discussed progress for the People and Culture portion of the strategic plan, including increasing the percentage of parents who feel empowered and supported by the school.
- Attendance increased at most recent Parent University which focused on Milestones testing.
- During the meeting, Microsoft Translating software was used which provided a translation of the presentation directly on the presentation screen. Parent feedback was positive, and families reported enjoying the experience.
- One of the indicators on the Strategic Plan is to increase the percentage of staff who would recommend working at Esther Jackson. The baseline is 65.7%. Staff leadership feels confident that the percentage will grow.

**Principal's Update:**

**Playground Update**

- Ms. Boyd discussed plans to transform the playground cement area using stencils and paint to create opportunities for cooperative games such as hopscotch and four squares, as seen at Medlock Bridge Elementary School.

- The Council discussed utilizing families and community volunteers to come together for a weekend event where to complete the transformation.

### **Budget**

- Ms. Boyd provided dates for the upcoming budget submission:
  - The budget will be distributed by January 27<sup>th</sup> and must be finalized by February 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - Budget and Finance Committee will meet prior to the February 27<sup>th</sup> SGC meeting and budget vote.

### **RFF Days**

- The cluster will vote on the following proposed days after district approval is granted:
  - 9/4/2020
  - 10/8/2020
  - 2/16/2021
  - 3/16/2021

### **School Vision Writing Team**

- Parents have been invited to focus groups conducted by Ann Farrell. The information collected will inform the work of the School vision writing team that is being guided by Ms. Farrell.

### **Approved:**

- Minutes from December 12, 2019 meeting
- Agenda for January 23, 2020 meeting

At 6:44 pm Mike Thomas motioned to end the meeting and Christopher Massie seconded.

### **Next Meeting**

February 27, 2020

Outreach Committee meeting @ 3:30 pm

Budget Committee meeting @ 4:00 pm

Council meeting @ 5:00 pm