

Esther Jackson Elementary School Governance Council

Minutes for February 22, 2022

Members Present: Regina Bowie, Nikol Boyd, Meghan Cherfoli, Maria Enriquez, James Holle, Emilie Long, Mike Thomas, Christine Thompson, Zach Vaughan, Jill Vitagliano

Members Absent: None

Guest(s): Lisa MacMillan

Call to Order: At 4:06 pm the meeting was called to order.

Approve Agenda:

Christine Thompson motioned to approve the agenda and Mike Thomas seconded.

Approve Minutes:

Meghan Cherfoli motioned to approve the minutes and Regina Bowie seconded.

Business:

Annual Budget Approval (4:09p)

- Principal Boyd forwarded the budget draft to the district for pre-approval today.
- She presented the council a detailed breakdown of next year's budget with reasoning behind the various decisions. The school's strategic priorities were highlighted.
- A few data points:
 - 97% of the budget is personnel costs.
 - Budget amount is based on student projections. Last year: 598; this year: 488.
 - Grades 3 and 4 slated for four teachers next year; the other grades to have three.
- Discussed the district's current priorities (Big Rocks) and how the budgetary choices are aligned:
 - Relationships & Culture: 0.5 bilingual liaison, Title I liaison.
 - Tier 1 Instruction: grades 3-5 literacy coach, full-time STEM teach, grades K-5 math coach.
 - Interventions: 0.5 EIP.
- Grades K-2 literacy coach and paraprofessional are not purchased from budget funds but rather grant-funded (from Covid-related program)
- Principal Boyd updated the council on our custodial position vacancies and plans to hire contractors for summer cleaning.

- She explained the different sources of funds including the district per child spending (~\$75k), charter dollars (~\$45k), and Title I funds (~\$193k), which were used to purchase our instructional coaches.
- At 4:54 pm, the motion to approve the budget was made by Mike Thomas and seconded by James Holle.

Principal's Update (5:01p)

- Principal Boyd updated everyone that the school is currently looking at 10 teacher vacancies to be filled for next year. The council discussed balancing accountability vs. grace during the pandemic and the stress of teaching in the current environment as a cause for losing teachers to other professions.

Update from Communication & Outreach Committee (5:25p)

- SGC Election Updates: Declaration deadline is March 2nd. Two positions to appoint; zero declared. James Holle stated he will be submitting his declaration soon. Also, Laura Kirby is rumored to be considering running.
- Carnival Updates:
 - Big Oak Tavern providing 400 hot dogs, 300 burgers, and chips--has a smoker to help cook.
 - SGC needs to cover what Big Oak doesn't.
 - Looking for one sponsor per bouncy house (five).
 - Margaret Gunter made a one-pager for finding sponsorships.
 - We need to reserve the bouncy houses (\$1000) as soon as possible.
 - We are still looking to secure buses for the event, however the current lack of drivers, and event time may make it difficult.
 - During the event, the PTA will still be asking for donations.

Superintendent Advisory Council Updates (5:57p)

- James shared a little about the previous meeting.

Discuss Upcoming Meeting Dates (5:59p)

- The next Outreach Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 2nd.
- The next council meeting will be on March 15th at 4pm.

Meeting Adjournment:

At 6:03 pm Christine Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting and Regina Bowie seconded.