

ELPS District School Council Minutes

March 15, 2024

Noon

Held in person and via Zoom

In attendance: Dori Leyko, Jen Jockheck, Angela Michael, Rhiannon Worgess-Carveth, Jessica Eyde, Jill Selke

Called to order at 12:03

February Minutes approved; Angela motioned; Jessica seconded.

Administrative Update – Dori:

- Boys high school basketball team made it to the state quarterfinals. It has been a fun season, with a great student section. Many staff members worked with students this year to help them with how to do what they wanted to support the team with appropriate limits in place. Helped make a great season.
- The impact of free breakfast and lunch in ELPS has been significant. Last year district meal rates were reduced with the help of leftover food funds in the district, so number of meals served had increased. But this year over twice as many breakfasts have been served in the district as well as 42% more lunches. The district plans to share this info with the legislature to help encourage this to become continually funded.
- The Kiwanis Club previously provided a dictionary and thesaurus for each student in the district. As those became less used, they decided to fund book vending machine for each elementary school in the district as well as the middle school. The first one was delivered to Donley last week. There was an unveiling with the students, Kiwanis Club and media, and the students were all very excited. The Kiwanis Club has funds in place for the next one, which will go to Red Cedar, hopefully in April. Each machine has a school logo on it and the school staff work to ensure it is filled with books for all grades and reading levels.
- Flyers about the bond proposal are ready to be distributed and include information about the upcoming proposed safety and technology bond.
- Part of the bond would include moving the central office staff to an offsite location. There is not enough room in the high school for staff currently, as they were previously located offsite and only intended to be housed in the high school temporarily. Additionally, moving offsite will help with safety, so that members of the public who are attending open meetings will not be doing so in the school building. The technology department will remain onsite due to the location of their equipment, but all other central office staff would move to the new location.

Canines for Change/Facility dogs – Jen:

- Each school in the district has a facility dog now. The high school has two, as the new social worker was a dog handler at her previous district, and they allowed her to bring the dog with her.
- Jen is a counselor at the high school, so it's the perfect place for Gus to be. He will comfort and provide emotional support to students who need it when they are visiting the counselors office.
- Gus can also be checked out to visit a classroom, and currently goes weekly to one class for students to read to him.
- He is a celebrity, school mascot and emotional support helper all in one. The program seems to be working well for the district so far, and Dori routinely gets questions about the program from other districts.

Building Updates:

- High School – no updates
- MacDonald – no updates
- Green – no updates
- Red Cedar – no updates
- Glencairn – Focusing on recruiting volunteers next year for each committee. Kicking off Mileage Club in April and just picked a date for field day. Doing a chipotle fundraiser May 8th.

- Donley – Auction made just under \$5,000. Book Bingo last night went great, there was a rep from ELPL there to give out info and library cards. Tonight is the Launch fundraiser. Book Fair is after spring break and the carnival is in May.
- Marble – Today is last day of book fair and dance party. April will have the silent auction, family night and the school carnival.
- Whitehills – Science Fair last night went great, well attended and kids all did their own projects. Next year planning to do a fun run rather than the 5K because there are less upfront costs and less planning involved. Planning the fun run themselves. Attempted to have International Night for last couple years but struggled to attract community groups. Should there be a combined elementary Embrace the World event for all of them together? May need to use the middle school or high school as location.

Next Meeting 4/12, Amy Martin will be attending.

Adjourn 12:43

Building Reps:

Donley	Julie Tobin
Glencairn	Erin Cazal
Green	Meghan Drouare
Marble	Jill Selke
Red Cedar	Linden Brown-Wren
Whitehills	Jessica Eyde
MacDonald	Rhiannon Worgess-Carveth
High School	Angela Michael