

Riverside Elementary SCC Minutes

May 10, 2018

Attendees: Chelsea Reid, Karina McDougal, Lisa Mitchell, Jeanette Gudgell, Amy Adams, Jolynne DiFrancesco, Megan Myers, Marilyn Richards, Shaunna Mitchell, Jessica Navarro

- 1. Elections:** Vice President is Jeanette Gudgell and Secretary is Megan Myers. We are need of a president. Karina offered to take care of Back to School night unless the Jr. High has it on the same night. We will continue to look for a president.
- 2. Do we make a difference at SCC?** Not very many people are aware of SCC. One way to make more aware would be to send it out on skylert. It was clarified that anyone can come to a SCC meeting, but only members can vote on an issue.
- 3. Personal Playground Equipment** – Karina McDougal has concerns about the lack of playground equipment and the kids are bored. There is a cart that goes out at lunch, but not for the other recess. At the other recess the kids have to rely on the teacher's classroom equipment. Amy Adams said that many school have restrictions on personal playground equipment. Jolynne said she purchased and donated equipment for her child's classroom. Shaunna Mitchell said her kids are still not allowed to run on the pavement and Jolynne said her 4th grader still has the same issue. Amy said she would follow up on the playground equipment - talk to Ronna and find out if the teachers have it available and its not be taken out or are in they in need of some. Jeanette suggested using some SCC money to purchase some equipment for the teachers.
- 4. The honeybucket** is still in the same spot. Marilyn Richards put in a call to auxiliary services to find out if we can move it down to the curve of the fence so it isn't right in front of our school drop off.
- 5. The Riverside Family Night** – JoLynne had a very negative encounter with a ref from the club soccer. He was very upset that Riverside was using our field and that we spray painted a twister game on it. Marilyn Richards was also going to do some calling to find out who has priority of field and hopefully prevent future problems.
- 6. Cough Drops in the School** – Amy followed up with the district nurses about cough drops not being allowed in the school, a discussion from the last meeting and clarified what was considered medicine. Any cough drops that have menthol is considered medicine and kids are not allowed to bring them to school. This is a district policy, AS85. Marilyn Richards said she would follow up on it and find out where this policy came from and why.

- 7. Leader in Me School** – Jolynne heard that we were not going to be a Leader in Me school. Amy said that in the past it has cost \$1500 a year to be a Leader in Me school and the price increased to \$2500 and Ronna had just received the bill a few days before. Amy and Ronna felt the extra \$1000 would be better spent somewhere else. The PTA and teachers would have liked to have a discussion and decide together whether it was worth the extra money or if another program might be good. Jolynne said teachers expressed frustration because they have invested a lot of time and money into the program over the last five years and were not consulted. The items the teachers have been using could continue to be used. Stephanie Adams loved this program and really pushed it and encouraged it. Since she has become the PE teacher she has not had time to help train new teachers to implement it. The teachers feel like the kids are more successful in the long run with their math, reading, etc. skills by implementing these skills. Jeanette was wondering if the newer teachers have been trained and suggested the newer teachers are not as invested as the older teachers are. Newer teachers would have to be self trained. She also pointed out that it may not be worth investing extra money in if it isn't going to be pushed like it has been in years past. Marilyn Richards reminded us that the School Trust Funds can help pay for programs like this and the PTA was also willing to help pay. Jeanette suggested sending a survey to teachers to find out how many use the Leader in Me then we might know whether it was worth spending money on. It was also suggested to negotiate a cheaper price since we have been using it for five years. Amy feels that we can still implement similar skills with their learning without paying this much money. We would not paint over our Leader in Me tree, but just paint over the habits with non copyrighted titles. Jeanette felt like there was a disconnect between the Spanish speaking community and the Leader in Me nights and if we kept Leader in Me we would need to make great strides to involve them. Amy Adams was going to start the conversation with Ronna and go from there.
- 8. Early Bird/Later Gator** - Marilyn Richards wants to know our feelings early bird/late gator schedule. Many love the later gator because the kids can get their chores, reading, etc. done before coming to school and those that love early bird can get their stuff done and still have time for playing. Many of us feel that some of the classes have too many kids during the middle of day. One mom said her son has so many it is hard for any extra attention during math and you can barely move in the classroom with the amount of desks. Also we don't have enough crossing guards, we have to have twice as many and we didn't have enough before.