

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
November 27, 2017
5:30-6:30 pm
Riley Library

In attendance: Ed Price, Nadia Rockwood, Christi Paulson, Sandra Buendia, Julia Waldroup, Chris Mitchener, Fatha Barch, Irma Quiroz, Isabel Gonzalez, Jose Garcia, Sonia Gonzalez, Ana Evangelista, Jim Martin, Ronald Urbin.

The meeting started at 5:30pm.

Everyone was welcomed.

Ed Price, representing district transportation, talked about the concerns SCC expressed last spring. Primarily, SCC was concerned with no flashing school lights on 1300 South and 800 West. Previously, the SCC had been told that lights were taken out when a stoplight was installed. Mr. Price informed SCC that Scott Van Hoerner is in the process of reassessing the need for school lights and will be back in touch with the transportation department and the Riley SCC when he has finished the reassessment. Dr. Buendia from the district office shared that at East High, the SCC had rallied to get some changes in the traffic flow. Dr. Buendia suggested that we reach out the SCC Chair at East, Rachel Kitterer, for more information on how they went about the process. It was also decided that SCC will put out a survey asking parents if they drive their children to school or if children walk/bike. This question will be followed up with an inquiry about the reasons why parents might choose to drive their children instead of letting them walk (is it a safety concern?). Mr. Urbin will prepare a note with this survey to go home and attach the safe walking route map to it.

Dr. Buendia is the Director of Focus Schools at the district office. She shared the district's plan for supporting struggling schools. Riley earned a C grade so they are still receiving support from the district office, to make sure that their grade doesn't dip lower than a C. Dr. Buendia answered parent questions about the support structure.

Principal Martin explained that we have a doorbell that was installed about a year ago. The doorbell hasn't really been used as we have kept one of the doors open. We started using it this week in order to better ensure the safety of our school and our children. People need to ring the bell and wait to be buzzed in. If the office is unsure of the person's identity, they will ask for specific information before buzzing the individual in. SCC felt this was a reasonable measure to keep Riley students safe. A letter will go home on November 29th about this change.

The SCC continued their discussion about fundraisers. One question that got brought up was, of the established fundraisers like chocolate sales and snack sales, which ones provided the largest percentage to the school. We will look into this question. In the meantime, it was decided that we will have a movie night January 25th at 5:30 pm. Maria Mendoza will coordinate this. The fundraiser will be for student rewards and field trips. We also will make a recipe book of family recipes that they love. Ms. Waldroup will make a recipe card in multiple languages that will be sent home before winter break and then again in January. The recipes, with pictures if possible, will need to be turned in by the end of January. Ms. Waldroup will then type them up so that they are publishable in a book.

The PTO Report was tabled until more information can be provided through Ms. Mendoza.

Principal Martin shared several slides about our emergency plans and provided SCC members with detailed copies of the plans. Parents were able to ask questions and discuss safety at Riley. One parent asked if there are emergency routes to vacate the building, at the door of every classroom. Administration will check on this. There was also concern expressed about the timing of fire and other emergency drills—do students ever get to practice during a non-structured time like recess or lunch? The administration will work on setting up some student practice of drills during less structured times of the day. The SCC also requested that our paraprofessionals and assistants be well-trained in supporting the emergency plan. Mr. Urbin will follow up on this.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm. The next SCC meeting will be pot-luck style on December 18th at 5:30 pm.

Minutes by Jim Martin.