

## Thunderboard Agenda - October 6, 2016 - 4-5:30PM, THES Library

**In attendance:** Beth Gerlach, Kim O'driscoll, Rosa Rostro, Tonya Penney, Lisa Robertson, Wes Paparone, Julie Ulrich, Alex Garza, Cathy Lippencott, Daniella Licon, Mr. Meyers, Daniela de Jongh, Cesar Benavides, Mary Janecek-Friedman

- 1) Welcome and Introductions (5 min)**
- 2) Membership (2 min)** – Daniela de Jongh (bilingual parent)
- 3) Approve minutes from last meeting (3 min)** Melissa Bowman moved to approve minutes & Beth Gerlach seconded. Committee approved minutes.
- 4) Community Input (5 min)** – *Beth* (4-way intersection idea from neighbor)
  - a) Beth Gerlach shared info about neighborhood work
  - b) Consulted crossing guards, neighbors, and THES administration
  - c) AISD has to approve
  - d) City has to do traffic survey
- 5) PTA updates (5 min)**
  - a) Julie Ulrich reported
  - b) Budget approved
  - c) Teachers have until next week to turn in reimbursement forms for BOY supplies
  - d) Carnival and Young Scientist's Day are coming up. We are still in need of a few scientists.
  - e) New Website is in the works
- 6) Reports (20 min)**
  - a) Administrative
    - i) Enrollment: Class sizes/classroom teacher changes—we are at 546. The current attendance rate is 95.91, and this is usually our best time of year. Several plans are in the works to encourage better attendance. Julie suggested that parent need to be informed of the effect of early morning doctor's appointments. For the next meeting Lisa Robertson will be bringing the Title I numbers. Lisa shared a survey that parents will be given regarding parent conferences.
    - ii) Academic Data: Lisa reported that The Formative Loop is something that 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade is doing to help math fluency. Tonya Penney reported the difficulties of using an online tool to assess young children who are just learning the tech skills. Wes Paparone shared that fewer substitutes are needed by replacing DRA with ISIP. Lisa Robertson shared info regarding the positive relationship between daily 20 minutes on ISIP and success on the STARR. She also shared data from our students this year.
    - iii) Lead 21: Administrators from Arkansas—38 administrators and pre-administrators visited our classrooms to observe and learn about blended learning and PBL.
    - iv) Innovative Bilingual Design Meeting—the district is looking at options, including partnering schools and other models of DL. There are 5 studies being completed

within the district by December, and decisions will be presented to the school board in January.

- v) Calendar Meeting—The model from this year is being looked at while designing options for next year’s calendar.
- vi) Project Based Learning Design Meeting – Next Week
- vii) Hug Zone Proposal (or not)—Wes Paparone & Mr. Meyer reported that every grade has done their own version and it was very successful. Julie Ulrich encouraged the school to remember what worked this year for the future. Beth Gerlach shared points from parents. (See attachment.)
- viii) Salad bar is back on Monday & Wednesday
- ix) Policy Write-Up: Homework, Recess, WOW – *Lisa/Kim*
- b) PBL Updates – *Upper Grade and Lower Grade Representatives*
  - i) Kinder—Alphabet Museum
  - ii) 1<sup>st</sup>—Native Americans
  - iii) 2<sup>nd</sup>—Government
  - iv) 3<sup>rd</sup>—Citizenship Museum
  - v) 4<sup>th</sup>—Women Leaders
  - vi) 5<sup>th</sup>--
- c) Benefits of Recess and Brain Breaks – *Tonya Penney*—Mrs. Penney shared that the new second recess has had a huge impact on students’ focus and volume level. Mr. Paparone shared that 1<sup>st</sup> grade also benefits from recess and asked if there was any way to replace equipment that has been lost or broken from last year, especially the equipment to be used on the Playpad. Julie Ulrich reported that the PTA budgeted \$500 for this purpose. Wes agreed to start off this effort
- d) Advocacy – *Colin Clark; Daniela Licon*
  - i) Colin Clark reported that law school students from UT are going to work with the folks at Travis Park
  - ii) Kim reported that a need for families of younger grade students to develop leaders.
  - iii) Tonya Penney and Daniela Licon shared the need and efforts to provide ESL lessons for our parents from the Middle East.

**7) Data Available for Review (10 min)**

- a) Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) Needs Assessment – Approve
- b) Tonya moved that the committee approve the CIP.
- c) Beth Gerlach seconded the motion.
- d) Plan was passed.

**8) Upcoming events (5 min)**

- a) Advocacy Team Meeting, TBA
- b) Austin Interfaith Events: Next meeting TBA
- c) SRCC Representative: Monday, 10/3/2016

**9) Presentation of Goals for 2016-2017 (30 mins)**

- a) **Building a Case for Recognition in AISD as an innovative school**
  - i) --*Kathy Lippincott, Mary Friedman, Kim O’Driscoll*

**b) Academics/Funding**

- i) Master Schedule to support teacher planning/mentorship
- ii) Master Schedule to consider adding Spanish/PE daily rotation
- iii) Creating clear policies for campus: Homework, Recess and Wow
- iv) Sustainable funding (PSS, technology, software)
- v) --*Julie Ulrich. Will Meyer,*

**c) School Climate**

- i) Support for teachers, students, families
- ii) Open, supportive, and safe communications among individuals: Admin/Teachers, Teachers/Admin, Teachers/Parents, Parents/Teachers, children/teachers
- iii) Continuing SEL and supporting its use on our campus
- iv) --*Beth Gerlach, Daniela De Jong, Kim O'Driscoll*

**d) Cross-Cultural Relationship Building**

- i) Contact Refuge north Austin for Arabic bilingual, Arabic college students (St. Ed's), are there communication Apps? What are other schools using (like Matthews, Hart, or Doss)?
- ii) --*Tonya Penney, Daniella Licon, Wes Papparone, Rosa Rostro, Melissa Bowman*

- e) **School Building/Facility Needs:** Space for classrooms (including Creative Action); Construction/AC--Cesar Benavides has agreed to be the connection to Creative Action. He reported that they have had turnover and the workers are concerned about the feelings of the community towards Creative Action. As of now, there does not seem to be any issues, and Cesar Benavides will be the conduit for any issues if any arise moving forward.

**10)Next Steps/Action Items and Agenda Items for next meeting (5 min)**

- (1) See italicized names above for areas of interest for Thunderbird members.