

PRMS School Governance Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

SGC Members Present: Eva Beau, M.J. Chironna, Colleen Connors, Linda Dragotta (co-chair), Joe Giandurco, Ena Jain, Amy Jeffereis, Damon Lewis (co-chair), Jill Katkocin, Jennifer Montanari, Ana Schlager, Rafael Tejada

Team Members Absent: Brenda Barto, Marianna Carlisi, Karen Cruz, Mayra Quispe

Next Meeting: March 6, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

Minutes from 1/2/19 meeting were approved by SGC and will be translated to Spanish by Ana Schlager. Dr. Lewis will send it to the webmaster.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

- As discussed in the last meeting, the Ponus staff is working on increasing opportunities for students to connect with a trusted adult and strengthen social emotional skills.
 - **Mr. Giandurco created a student survey that focuses on “Who are your trusted adults at Ponus”.** He will forward the form to the SGC members for final approval before students take the survey.
 - **Mr. Giandurco presented the “Bio” posters to the Ponus staff.** Teachers (Mr. Giandurco and Mrs. Ferrari were completed and hung up) began creating bios about themselves (5-10 Facts You May Not Know About...) to share with students and post in their classrooms. This will help students make a connection to a teacher that has similar interests.
 - **The Guidance Counselors met with Dr. Lewis and Miss Riley about Incorporating Developmental Guidance programs at Ponus.** They will begin going into Health classrooms to present lessons about peer pressure, coping skills etc. The counselors will be teaching different grades. (Example: Mr. Tejada will be teaching 7th Grade).
 - **SGC members agreed that a sub-committee should be formed focusing on SEL.** The goal is for the sub-committee to include parents from Hispanic Parent Group/PTA, social workers, nurse, SPED teachers, and guidance counselors. Meetings outside of monthly SGC meetings will be scheduled. Since these meetings will be outside of the work day, there is no guarantee that all groups will be represented on the sub-committee.
 - **Amy Jeffries** offered to send the Resilience movie in for staff to watch during the next PD Day (first step in creating a trauma informed community).

Action Items

- Joe G. will send final survey to Dr. Lewis for approval by 3/1. He is looking to share with students by 3/5. ***An email will be sent to parents giving them information about the survey.***
- A sub-committee will be formed for S.E.L – M. Chironna will meet with Dr. Lewis to talk further.

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

The SIP goals were reviewed. All updates and changes approved will be made by 2/13.

GOAL 2

Student led conferences started last year with 6th Graders. This year 6th and 7th Graders will lead conferences and in 2020 all grades will have conferences.

GOAL 3

6th Grade Orientation

- This will take place on 3/13.
- Possibility of the format changing to a more interactive “Ponus Fair”
 - Tables set up for different houses/academic areas
 - Teachers or students can run the tables
 - PTA, Hispanic Parent Group and SGC Tables

SGC Parent Night – Focused on Social Emotional Learning and SGC work

- Can take place in April
- Ted Talks video
- Teachers present “This is What We See..”
- In 2019/2020, this is what we are planning for Social Emotional Learning
- Invite parents from the Elementary Schools

GOAL 4

1-Teachers create bio posters.

2-Students survey asking “Who are your trusted adults at Ponus?”

3-Partnership with Family & Children’s Agency to run small gender based counseling groups at Ponus initiated in the Spring 2019.

4-Developmental guidance programs initiated in conjunction with Health classes.

5-Transition to 6th Grade Summer Program starting Summer 2019 for 5 weeks.

6-Create a trauma informed community.

Updates

- Construction began for the new Ponus Ridge STEM Magnet School.
- Career Day is canceled this year. It was recommended a sub-committee be formed for next year.

Action Items

- M. Chironna will revise SIP by February 13
- L. Dragotta will send approved minutes to Ana for translation and then Dr. Lewis will send final English and Spanish version to Dr. I to post on PRMS website.
- Approve minutes from last SGC meeting

Prepared by: Linda Dragotta and M.J. Chironna