

Site Council Minutes - Ridgeline Montessori Public Charter School

Monday, May 20, 2019 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm – Ridgeline Library

- I. Welcome (6:10)
 - a. Attendees: Michelle Lodwig (parent rep), Maizy Phayt (classified rep), Sharon Martin (administration rep), Jen Hornsby (Board rep), Jay Snider (parent rep), Carrie Culliton (teacher rep), Maya Ryley (Student rep), Cynthia Friedman (Volunteer Coordinator), Shannon Harty (minutes)
- II. Additions/changes to the agenda: none
- III. Approve April Minutes: done
- IV. Announcements and Updates by stakeholders
 - a. Students: none
 - b. Classified educators: none
 - c. Teachers: Concerns about the calendar (addressed below).
 - d. Administration:
 - i. Hiring
 1. very close to hiring for Upper EI position.
 2. Ridgeline has had a say in the EA position (in learning center all day) and is waiting for district approval
 3. Ridgeline is working with 4J to hire for learning center position.
 4. Rachael Quinn (licensed teacher and has 3-6 Montessori certification) is hired for LowerEI position.
 5. Lower EI and Upper EI placements were done with a focus on keeping balanced classroom rather than on the child's potential chemistry with the teacher.
 6. Middle School placements still need to be completed. 22 sixth graders will be moving up.
 - e. Parents: There are concerns about the hiring process. Michelle Dreiling will be next year's RCO co-convener.
 - f. Board: Hiring has been a focus. There is currently a board position open (ideally, two or three positions would be filled). If there's a lot of interest in joining the board they'll open more positions. Board looks for a wide variety of skills--finance people, law, separating emotions from thoroughness, good of students and school separate from own emotions.
- V. Items raised by guests: No guests
- VI. Discussion Items
 - a. Unfinished Business:
 - i. Update on Student Survey – Sharon/Maizy/Maya: Summary of results submitted to Site Council
 1. Q7 In the future maybe ask "Who would you talk to *at school...*" to clarify that parents aren't involved.
 2. A lot of feedback about kids wishing others had more body awareness
 3. Looking for material geared toward their age and perhaps global in scope (both in fundraising and assemblies)

4. Sending e-news to students was a suggestion students made to better communicate with them.
 5. Building B playground - Better climbing equipment. Swing set might be unsafe.
- b. New Business
- i. Work on 2019-20 calendar -
 1. Cynthia
 - a. We mostly follow 4J
 - i. 4J is taking inservice 10/10, Ridgeline planning on having students that day. In making a final decision about whether to have school that day, perhaps we should discuss with Michelle (principal) to see if she'd like that time to have a cohesive plan with staff.
 - ii. Parents and teachers like conferences over Halloween. Currently conferences are scheduled to be aligned with 4J on 11/7-11/8. If we do 10/31 there will be no childcare options for families. Would this put Curriculum Sharing too close to conferences for teacher preferences?
 - iii. 1/6 is a 4J planning day and hazardous make-up day
 - iv. Lottery application deadline is January 30th. Lottery results date will not be publicized as a specific date, parents will be notified of results mid-February.
 - v. Do we want 3/13 as a planning day like 4J or do we want it 3/30 to be right after spring break? Teachers like 3/30 but families with childcare needs would likely prefer 3/13
 - vi. Can Site Council investigate child care possibilities for families on days off that differ from 4J's?
 - vii. Currently Project Fair is on the week when testing starts. Would teachers prefer that it be 4/14 or is that too close to spring break?
 - viii. 5/1 Ridgeline will have no school like 4J
 - ix. There will be two report cards and one conference day for next school year. Two main reasons for this decision were:
 1. If a child leaves the school midyear, there isn't a record of their work to send to their new school.
 2. In mid-February, families were asked to take a survey regarding their experiences with mid-year conferences. Many families expressed concern that they felt they did not receive adequate information about how their student was progressing. It was also clear the experience was not equitable across classrooms. Carrie and Maizy will share any teacher or assistant calendar questions or concerns.
 2. Look at dates for 2019-20 year Site Council meetings including August retreat.
 - a. We decided to keep meetings on Monday evenings and also looked at conflicting dates.
 - ii. Discuss Parent Survey Results 2018-19 flyer - Michelle (did not discuss due to time)

VII. Adjourn (7:40)