

THE EXPLORATION ACADEMY  
SITE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

DATE: 2/20/17

6:15 PM – 8:00 PM

x	Paul Driftmier - President		Dawn Van Hook - VP
x	Steve Heuer - Treasurer/Parent		Cathy Driftmier - Parent
x	Mona Cassis - Parent	x	Chad Welty - Staff
x	Kathy Erickson - Parent	x	Lesley Morrison - Staff
x	Pheng Lee - Director		

Students: Jaleah Price and Sarah Quinton

I. CALL TO ORDER

Paul called to order at 6:15 pm

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BRIEF AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review and approval of previous meeting's minutes

Paul moved to approve minutes and second by Chad.

B. Next meeting

The next meeting is set for March 20th at 6:15pm.

III. ENGAGE

A. When You Know Your Why, Your What Has More Impact

- a. Paul introduced the engagement activity about a video on "when you know your why, your what has more impact." Paul asked members what their thoughts are as they watched the video and how this is related to what we are doing in site council/governance council.
- b. Paul began the conversation by sharing his thoughts on our WHAT as governance council. He said that we knew our WHY as a school and council but not really our WHAT. We have a better understanding of our What now.
- c. Kathy shared the mission of Exploration Academy.
- d. Paul asked how the vision is connected or not connected to the WHY we are doing what we are doing. Pheng talked about the district's vision of "Every Student Must Be Successful."
- e. Paul asked about our mission as we are looking to have conversations regarding renewing the charter soon.
- f. Lesley asked the students why they decided to attend EA and Sara Quinton shared why she picked EA over VAHS. Jaleah shared that she came to EA because her grandma told her to and that she transferred to VAHS for a little bit but decided that she wanted to transfer back to EA. Jaleah shared that she likes the freedom of learning that EA provides. Sara shared that she likes how the Advisors are there to

help guide her. Jaleah suggest that we provide structure for students who need the structure.

#### IV. CELEBRATIONS/POSITIVES

- a. Chad shared about MLK breakfast and that Sara and Jaleah were recognized at the breakfast.
  - i. 3 students shared with Chad the colleges that they just got accepted into - Madison College, NYU - Shanghai and UW Stevens Point.
  - ii. Students run the newsletter and Advisors support and guide but it is fully written and put together by students.

#### V. DIRECTORS REPORT

- A. Enrollment Update
  - a. There are 76 students currently enrolled. There are 19 seniors with most on track to graduate and there are plans to help and support those that are struggling to help them be on track.
- B. Applications for 17-18 school year
  - a. There are 20 applications for the 17-18 school year and it is early still so we may still get more applications throughout the year.
- C. Juniors will be taking the ACT next Tuesday and Work keys on Wednesday.

#### VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Fundraising - Paul, Lesley, Mona, Cathy and Kathy
  - a. Lesley and Cathy met to discuss fundraising ideas and events.
  - b. Pizza Ranch fundraiser is ready and Mona has turned in the W9 form. We are waiting for them to give us a date of when we can hold the fundraiser.
  - c. Lesley shared about EA gear and information and will share with students who will help her. She also discussed the birds that students painted and see if we can have parents to sponsor the birds.
  - d. Lesley shared that we need to focus on Pizza Ranch and Bratfest. Chad asked if there is an age limit to work at Bratfest. Paul shared that it depends on the job that they will be doing at Bratfest.
  - e. Mona shared about doing the chocolate party again and was wondering if we want to do the chocolate party again and do pre-sale or pre-order.
- B. School Engagement - Mona, Steve, Dawn, Chad and Pheng
  - a. Steve shared about the Spring Showcase that will be held in the K gym and presentations in K156/K157. We will do the bingo cards again and Dawn will send out form for parents to bring food to share.
  - b. Graduate recognition event that is open to every EA student. The date has been set for . Mona contacted the town hall and they will get back to her about using the townhall for this celebration. They have projection screens and microphones. The lady said that they are meeting on March 7th and they will get back to Mona. Steve shared about our discussion of giving seniors as an award during the celebration.
  - c. Steve shared about a new student picnic and hold it at Harriet Park on May 1. Mona has contacted the city and reserved the park for the event. Dawn is checking

to see if any place is willing to donate for this event. Another idea is to have parents bring food and share. The event is planned from 4pm-6pm.

- d. Kathy shared about having a family being mentors or assigned to help parents of new students so they are connected.

## VII. Discussion/In-Depth

### A. Data Dive

- a. Pheng introduced the data folder and went over each piece of data that the team saw a couple of months ago. Included in the folder is a sheet with guiding questions. We will take a little bit of time to look at each data point, discuss and then move on to the next piece to avoid jumping around in our conversation.
- b. Steve said that it seems like there is a range between highs and lows. In general, students don't need help but there may be some individuals that need help. There are freshmen students that have a high lexile level and some with low that need some interventions.
- c. Jaleah shared about seniors and how many are on the high end of lexile scores.
- d. Paul shared about how students who start very low, end up low. He shared that when he was in school, something happened and he began to read more and more. He asked if Achieve promotes love of reading or inhibit students love of reading. Mona shared that it is more of a tool to measure student growth.
- e. Chad shared that Savannah Oaks, VAHS and EA began using Achieve in Verona but moving forward we need to think about how we use Achieve and if we will continue to use Achieve.
- f. Mona shared that her experience with Achieve and how it helps students who read at a lower level grow.
- g. Chad asked what other data points do we need as we look at this data point. Mona asked if we can look at STAR Reading assessment.
- h. Kathy shared that she does not feel like Achieve truly measures students levels and that it could reflect students' levels of not enjoying the Achieve articles. However, Achieve does expose students to a variety of topics.
- i. Will a survey regarding engagement around Achieve be valuable?

### B. Funding Discussion: Students/Staff vs. Administrative

## VIII. Items for next meeting's agenda

- Continue data discussion
- Funding discussion with fundraising funds

## IX. Adjournment

Paul move to adjourn and second by Chad at 8:01pm