

THE EXPLORATION ACADEMY  
SITE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

DATE: 4/17/17

6:15 PM – 8:00 PM

x	Paul Driftmier - President	x	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	x	Judi Quinton - Parent

Students: Jaleah Price, Sarah Quinton

I. CALL TO ORDER

Paul called to order at 6:20.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BRIEF AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review and approval of previous meeting's minutes

Paul called to approve minutes from last meeting second by Dawn.

B. Next meeting

Next meeting is May 22 at 6:15 pm.

III. ENGAGE

A. Reading on Team

- a. Pheng passed out a short reading on Team and collaboration and shared how he ran into the reading and began thinking about the teams that he leads or is part of.
- b. Paul shared what is our WHY as a council. Site council has changed over the years and we have evolved faster as a team.
- c. Steve shared that the article is straight forward. The stones are rubbing against each other and have different ideas to continue discussion and push the team to be better.
- d. Chad shared that we are here because we want what is best for the school and students.

IV. CELEBRATIONS/POSITIVES

- A. Paul shared that Easter was awesome for him and his family. Others shared similar/differing experiences.
- B. Sarah started the penny war fundraiser between the Advisors. So far Mr. Welty is winning and the winning Advisory gets to pick which Advisor they want to dress up for the day.
- C. EA students who have applied for college have all been accepted. Jaleah shared that she has been accepted to all 5 and has selected to attend Spelman.

- D. Sarah and Lesley met last week to start a club in EA next year to help students be a part of the EA community. Sarah shared that from the survey that some students indicated that they didn't feel connected so she wanted to do something to connect every student.
- E. Pheng shared that Debrell will be one of 3 main speakers at the Icebreaker event held by Madison Chamber of Commerce. EA students and staff will be attending this event.
- F. Hope Fechner planned an event to bring down Green Screen Kid - band from Appleton to perform and talk to students about bullying.

#### V. DIRECTORS REPORT

- A. Math position
  - a. 2 site council members (Paul, Steve and Dawn are interested), 2 staff (Lesley and Chad) and 2 students (Sarah and Jaleah are interested)
  - b. Review of applicants will be in about 2 weeks and then interviews will be scheduled.

#### VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Fundraising - Paul, Lesley, Mona, Cathy and Kathy
  - a. Pizza Ranch is set for May 8. Lesley shared information about this fundraiser. Paul and Steve will attend this fundraiser along with students.
  - b. Bratfest - we have 10 volunteers for this event and should net some fundraising funds for EA.
  - c. Chocolate party - we can't sell chocolate at school but can take pre-orders and send chocolate later.
  - d. Food trucks - Lets Eat Out. They will come and set up and EA will get a percent but Pheng shared that we can't do this on school grounds.
- B. School Engagement - Mona, Steve, Dawn, Chad and Pheng
  - a. Showcase is coming up this week Thursday. Food link sent out today and will have greeters. There will be bingo cards for parents/guardians. Steve will put a flyer out to parents about EA upcoming events.
  - b. New student picnic is coming up. There will be food provided. Staff and parents/guardians can possibly bring something to share - potluck style? Steve will send out email on food.
  - c. Year end celebration for Graduating students at Verona Town Hall on June 5 from 6:30-8:30. There is an agenda and will need to be finalized before the event. Possibly having cupcakes or cakes there. Send out RSVP to get numbers of attendance.

#### VII. Discussion/In-Depth

- A. Data Dive
  - a. Take the next 20 minutes to look at data - assessments, student involvement and parent engagement.
  - b. How can we best communicate with students, staff, parents/guardians on a consistent basis? How can we be more consistent on our practices and processes? Kathy shared on consistency in advisor/advisee goal meetings.
  - c. Sarah shared that being a mentor can be helpful for other students who need more help.
  - d. Some possible areas to explore is improving math support for students, structures/supports to help students be more consistent in

- e. Mona asked about data points compared to other charter schools on how Project Based Learning and life-long learning.
  - i. Steve said that it would be difficult to measure some of the soft skills but a confidence survey can be given to students. How about students who attended college and how they feel EA has prepared them for college.

B. SMART Goal(s)

C. Charter Renewal

- a. Pheng will send out electronic copy of the charter to members to look at.
- b. We will need to think about renewing the charter with a plan. Will we renew the charter and continue as a charter - what is the plan? What would we do differently?
- c. Will we renew the charter with a "phase in" plan - integrate into VAHS as a program. Some reasons for this path is funding, more access for both EA and VAHS students to resources and project based learning. Growing project based learning from within as part of personalized learning.
  - i. Some questions/thoughts came up - what will this look like? The need to want to have our own school. Some autonomy and input from site council on school.
  - ii. Paul spoke on how EA can grow as a program from within and that we will at least have a plan that we create. There will be space to grow with the passing of referendum but raising funds to support the school and growth has been difficult.
  - iii. Chad spoke on how there is a dual language program within a school where his son attends school.
- d. Ann Franke will attend the next site council meeting to discuss option 2 more and answer any questions.

VIII. Items for next meeting's agenda

- 1. SMART Goal

IX. Adjournment

Paul called to a close at 8:15 pm.