



Town of Reading Meeting Minutes

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

School Council -Wood End Elementary

Date: 2020-01-06

Time: 3:15 PM

Building: School - Wood End

Location: Conference Room

Address: 85 Sunset Rock Lane

Session: Open Session

Purpose: Regular Meeting for 2019-20

Version: Draft

Attendees: **Members - Present:**

Nicole Cella, Andrea Freeman, Jessica Hester, Joanne King, Michelle Mini, Jane Roberts, Kevin Sexton

Members - Not Present:

Lori Abelson

Others Present:

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: Joanne King

Topics of Discussion:

The monthly meeting of the Wood End Elementary School Council was held in the Conference Room of the Wood End Elementary School on January 6, 2020.

Call to order:

A quorum of members being present, and the meeting having been duly convened at Wood End School by the Principal, Joanne King called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. and proceeded with business.

Dr. King welcomed the committee and gave everyone the opportunity to re-introduce themselves.

Jessica Hester will take notes for the minutes in place of Lori Abelson.

Public Comment:

No public comments were shared.

Review and Acceptance of Minutes:

Minutes from the last meeting were emailed to the group. Members reviewed draft minutes from the October 21, 2019 meeting. There were no corrections or additions.

Vote: Minutes Accepted 7-0-0

Old Business:

Idling of cars: Michelle Mini has been researching available materials. Dr. King met with Lisa Norcross to discuss the possibility of Student Council taking on the No Idling campaign.

The Student Council will make public service announcement videos about the campaign and post them to the school website and social media accounts. The Student Council would also like to have members make posters and hold them outside during arrival and dismissal. Michelle suggested the idea of having parents signing a pledge.

Jane also brought up the issue of parking in the fire lane which has been happening frequently. There is a lack of parking at Wood End and families are parking in the fire lanes at arrival and dismissal.

Joanne will follow up with Mike Scouten and other buildings to see if it is a problem in other locations.

School Improvement Plans: The plans have been submitted to the School Committee. Some suggested feedback was to define the educational vocabulary (ie. SRSS/SIBS). Joanne noted that we could provide more education to families around curriculum, interventions, school systems, etc.

New Business:

Fifth Grade Update: Open Circle is still being taught in all classrooms. Students are currently back in their homerooms and working with the classroom teacher and another staff member.

Doc Wayne Therapeutic Sports Program: Dr. King is hoping to use this program that is a non-profit, research-based program for kids in grades 1-8 with fifth grade. The program uses DBT, dialectical behavior therapy which entails intensive coaching and redirecting, mostly around perseverance, problem solving, and resilience.

We are looking for 20 families and currently have 7. There are two coaches who will lead the students in learning the skills through basketball. Coaches begin with a check-in, then a drill on the topics discussed, and then students will scrimmage and problem solve at the same time. They will do more curriculum at half-time, scrimmage again and then spend time reflecting and reinforcing.

This year would be a pilot with our building and then the hope would be to be able to open this program to all schools in Reading, elementary through high school. The program cost is \$55/session for 14 weeks. Dr. King wrote a grant to REF in hopes of lowering the cost for families. It would be held on Wednesdays after school in two sessions.

Project Adventure:

Dr. King mentioned the connection between fifth grade skill development and the trip to Project Adventure. Information is being sent out to families today. The day will be spent with Killam and Birch Meadow students, May 5th. Dr. King explained some of the structures and how the day runs.

MCAS:

It was asked how many parents attended the MCAS meeting. Dr. King mentioned that the PTO Board parents were there and about 3 families and 5 teachers. Dr. King and Mrs. Hester explained some of the changes in instruction because of the MCAS results.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the School Council adjourned at 4:10 p.m. with plans to reconvene on March 2, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hester,
Recording Secretary