

STATON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School Organizational Team Minutes

March 1, 2017

4:00pm

The Staton Elementary School Organizational Team (Team) meeting was called to order at 4:00pm on March 1, 2017. The meeting was held at the Staton ES Library.

Members present:

- Patti Haire, Kindergarten Teacher
- Robert Hollowood, Science Teacher
- Carrie Kern, 1st grade Teacher
- Teri Mann, GATE Teacher
- Michael Harger, Site Base Technician
- Kristy Froehlich, Parent
- Nicole Hamilton, Parent
- Kristina Havill, Parent
- Leigh-Anne Mateyka, Parent
- Gina Retke, Parent
- Carrie Robine, Parent
- Julie Hosea, Office Manager
- Christina Fitch, Assistant Principal

Members Absent:

- Dr. Lombard, Principal
- Dawn Mae, Specialized Teaching Assistant

The minutes from the meeting dated February 21, 2017 were presented and approved as presented.

New Agenda Items

- CLIMATE AND CULTURE TRAINING
 - The SOT participated in training on school climate and culture via ab394.ccsd.net. The activity defined School Climate as "the subjective experience of a school, often referred to as the weather report, as it can be influenced by the events of any given day." School Culture was defined as "the actual state of the school, the way of life of the school community, the beliefs, behaviors, values and symbols that they accept, generally without thinking about them, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next." (reference pink sheet)
 - During the group activity, Climate was described as the feel, vibe or aura of the school. Culture at Staton was defined as the beliefs, customs or norms of the school, more specifically, Staton being a kindness school and a teamwork environment.
 - Group question – Why is creating a positive school culture so important?
 - Because of the amount of time spent at the school
 - We want a safe, solid environment
 - We want a home/ school value connection
 - An attitude of being open to learning
 - Buy in at all levels (teachers, admin, students, parents)
 - We want everyone to thrive and excel

- Group question – How do you establish a positive culture and have buy in?
 - Involvement
 - Fun events
 - Dressing up
 - Fun learning
 - Teacher appreciation
 - Decorating the school
 - Helpful parents
 - Parent volunteers
 - All voices feel heard
 - Build relationships with respect and interaction
 - The school feels like a family unit
 - Collaboration builds trust and communication
 - Unified vision and purpose
 - We have to believe it to achieve it!
- DEFINE THE STRUCTURE OF THE SOT
 - There was discussion regarding the structure of the SET (School Empowerment Team) in comparison to the SOT. The SET has representation for each grade level thereby giving the SET more school voice in their process. There was discussion of having a grade level representative that will interact with the SOT. This would be a non-voting member who could attend meetings and participate when needed.
 - The possibility of having an internal SOT /SPP (School Performance Plan) committee was raised.
 - Strategies for Involvement in the SOT meetings – It was discussed that it seems many parents are either not aware of the SOT or are just not attending monthly meetings or the presentation of the SPP/Budget. The SOT discussed ways to get more involvement by doing some PR/Branding where the SOT is concerned. Ideas such as a "Did You Know?" Section on the website, open ended surveys, a comment area on the website that will be forwarded to the SOT. These items will be discussed further.
- DECIDE ON FUTURE COMMITTEES
 - Teri Mann made a motion to table this agenda item to a future meeting when we have more CTT data and information from teacher surveys. Motion was seconded. Agenda item is tabled.

General Discussion

- A supply list by grade level was requested in order for the PTO to put together the possibility of supply box orders for the next school year.
- A question was raised about which copiers parent/PTO volunteers are allowed to use. Are volunteers allowed to use the copiers in the great rooms? Clarification will be made as to the policy on copier use.

Information

Next meeting: Staton ES – Library 4/5/2017 4:00 – 5:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm