

Site Council Minutes September 21st, 2025

Members Present: Principal Bolasky, Mr. Rodarte, Ms. Barry, Ms. Wong, Ms. Wolgemuth, Mr. Pearson, Brandy McClain, Brent Pantaleo, Scott Mobley, Katie Handley, Ms. Gariepy

Call to Audience

School Updates: Principal's Report

Picture day is this coming Wednesday—September 27th

Parent Teacher conferences are September 17-19

The Magic Box Assembly is September 3rd

PTA

Katie is co-President with Olivia

1st meeting is September 4th

Pancake Breakfast is September 13th

Literacy Connects will have an Anne Eve Pederson memorial fund and will handle the funds and donations. They will cut the checks for the project when funds are needed. They have an excellent oversight program.

On 75th anniversary neighborhood created a line item for playground improvement fund, which we use to make improvements like overhead shade, playground equipment, etc. We still have some funds (they still add sometimes) and use the funds for that purpose.

We have four new teachers. Kinder remains the same. Ms. Howayek has joined us from Marana. Ms. Piper was a long-term sub for Ms. Jackson and Laurie Tomiak moved from

Pennsylvania; he taught in Tucson previously and has additional experience as a reading interventionist.

Ms. Jackson will be back in September; she is returning from maternity leave. Ms. Trish has been covering her room a lot this month.

Ms. Batchelder moved from 4th grade to 3rd grade, and Ms. Heath has joined us for 3rd grade.

We have new support staff. The 5-hour monitor position has been split into a 3-hour and a 2-hour position. Ms. Nonni runs the cafeteria, and Ms. Meg is on the playground with Mr. Christian. (He is also a full-time employee for UPS! He starts his 3:00 a.m. shift, then comes to Hughes, then returns to UPS. He does not want to give up Hughes 😊)

Megan Dejonghe is our new curriculum support specialist. He trained at the District level prior to this and specifically requested to work at Sam Hughes to support teachers. She is sorting out our excess curriculum to return to the District and also is running PLCs.

Teachers came back on a Monday for a full week and students also put in a full week on their first week.

We have started collecting data on our students

--iReady diagnostic is up and running for ELA and math

--we also have IXL data we will collect for older grades

--DIBELS

--NSGRAs completed by teachers with individual students

The instructional blocks have begun. Students move between their grade-level groups for targeted intervention. We are in the middle of data collection with diagnostics and DIBELS so we can group students with ELA and math and support them at the levels they need for ideal instruction. It has been a lot of work from the teams to collaborate and look at the students as a cohort—not just individual rosters. This has been very intentional and has enabled us to

allocate our resources—Mr. Pearson, Ms. Carmen, Ms. Yvonne are all moving through the building as we put together our schedule for the blocks. 1st-5th are in the growing pains of blocks; we are all figuring it out together.

We just had our Curriculum Night. The support specialists were each able to present briefly and discuss what they are doing at Hughes. It was a new format to present to the families. Last years' model was 45 minutes; we changed the structure a bit. The overview in the cafeteria, followed by the meetings in teacher classrooms provided just enough time to cover the material.

We held two Curriculum Nights this year. K-2 and 3-5. Splitting into 2 nights helped with parking and the timing. It was not so rushed, and fewer parents had to choose between which classroom they would visit with the time allotted. However, the presentations did take up the full amount of time, so it was difficult to impossible to have time to also visit additional rooms like the Fish Room, the Superhero Room, the library, Tallmadge Hall, etc. Ms. Barry pointed out that in the past, PTA provided child care in the library to help out families who do not attend because they have no child care options. It is ideal if students have a place to be during that time. Perhaps parents could volunteer to split and cover the nights when their students do not have Curriculum Night.

(K-2 parents covered in library by 3-5 and vice-versa). Just an idea for moving forward.

1st and 3rd Monday of the month is now a time for the newly-formed Leadership Team. It is an established team, but all staff are welcome to join. We talk about instruction, curriculum, the instructional blocks, etc.

Ever 2nd and 4th Monday the PBIS team meets to discuss PBIS, acknowledgment of student CREW behavior awards, student recognition, etc. Mr. Pearson posted the banners and Mrs. Jennifer designed them. We are developing new CREW artifacts for display. CREW meetings now occur on Wednesdays, so the instructional blocks on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday are not interrupted. We have a live CREW meeting the first Wednesday of each month. The other three CREW meetings are ZOOM meetings and we are changing those up to be more engaging.

The ZOMMS are five minutes or less; we now have videos created by Ms. Gascho and Mr. Pearson which incorporate students, can include PBIS “shout outs” for recognition during the ZOOM meetings and can help the meetings to be more fun and draw students into the meetings 😊 Mr. Pantaleo offered to edit the videos, if that would help.

Tax Credits may now be used to open up capital purchase items; we would need to present to Site Council for such funding (non-consumables). We also could create a new designation if we want to put together a fundraising campaign. The legislature has opened up options for ways for us to use the funds. In this manner schools can utilize more funds. For example, we may present Site Council with options for social media technology improvements.

Budget

Tax Credits:

Chess	\$ 7,607
OMA	\$57,144 (we may need to look at spending some funds here)
Fine Arts General fund	\$19,404
Sports General	\$37,000

We added some funding for an outdoor play

Instructor and have some applicants.

Also, we are paying for a second Cross-Country Coach.

Field Trips	\$7,155
-------------	---------

In the spring we were able to allocate \$400 for every teacher, including the new teachers.

Gardening/Ecology	\$58,510
-------------------	----------

We moved additional funds to cushion Ms. Graber's salary.

(This is not what she is paid).

Reading Program	\$ 25,391 Funds reading support specialists.
-----------------	--

Undesignated	\$135,927.39
--------------	--------------

Capital purchases, extracurricular/student-focused above and beyond what district provides. Use should be for as many students as possible—majority student use.

We will table Title 1 for the next meeting; it is going to take some time.

Ms. Barry takes her final bow at Site Council Meetings after about 20 years of service!

Planning schedule for upcoming meetings:

September 25th (also PTA meeting at 6:00 that night)

October 23rd

November 20th (also PTA meeting at 6:00)

No December

January 22nd

No February

March 26th

April 16th

May 14 (tentative)

Future items for Discussion: Can we create more shading created for play/instruction areas?

Greening Group does have some ideas. Kinder area needs more shade. There are funds which could be utilized in this regard.

Meeting adjourned at 5:11.

Family Engagement Team

The schedule for available courses is sent to parents.

Very accommodating and well-presented.

There is a wide range of resources and courses available for families.

We do have families approach to see what we can do to provide support.

Food Centers have a lot more than canned food—protein, dairy, etc.

We need to have more visible across campus—posters, information, QR Codes, websites, contact information. People who are on site less often look at the bulletin boards; that is a good way to get the information out. We can also direct parents to staff members who can support them also.

Can we create QR codes internally to have Family Resource Center information/direction to website, etc. On flyers? This seems like something we can do pretty easily. Arlene and Lacy can help us with this too. A button can also be added to the website for ease.

Meeting adjourned at 5:11.