

VAIL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #20
Vail, Arizona

School Site Council
Esmond Station School

Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 23rd, 2020 – 3:45 pm
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Regular Meeting

Members present: Herbert Yee, Adrienne Ordaz, Linda Slade, Lainie Kitzmiller, Kelly Nieto, Marcia Johnson, Kara Talley, Jen Anderson, and Rebecca Carrier. Also in attendance was Cindi Carson.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Yee called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m.
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Approval of Minutes: Ms. Slade motioned to approve, Mrs. Ordaz seconded the motion, the minutes were approved.
 - C. Member Reports
 - Member Reports- none
 - Administrative Report-

Mrs. Kitzmiller reported that even though school is still closed, we are serving 50 meals per day to families. Esmond was one of the only schools who passed out chrome books in the district to 4th-7th grade students; 8th grade students already had their chromebooks. We've had more students engaging in general education opportunities because of having access to chromebooks. We are still moving forward with kindergarten and 8th grade promotions as best we can. Those events will be modified this year, but we will still find ways celebrate those students. We are still moving forward with planning for next year as best we can.

- D. Call to the Public- none
- E. Acknowledgement of Public Requests to Speak- none
- F. Staff, Student, and Community Recognition

Mrs. Ordaz recognized all of the classified staff at Esmond for going above and beyond by helping with chromebook delivery, passing out lunches, making packets for students, and supporting teachers as much as possible. They were given opportunities for training and are participating in that, too. Mrs. Ordaz recognized her sons' teachers, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Benson. Ms. Anderson drove all the way to Sahuarita to Mrs. Ordaz' house to hide something for her son to find as part of their class scavenger hunt. Ms. Benson is so engaging and her son loves their class zoom meetings. Mrs. Ordaz also recognized the PTSA for

purchasing chapter books for the sped team to use during Zoom meetings with their students.

Mrs. Nieto recognized all of the teachers across the board for keeping the students engaged. She thanked Mrs. Kitzmiller for allowing students to have chromebooks. Mrs. Nieto also recognized Ms. Stark for having band and choir practice on zoom- it's been great to have that opportunity. In addition, Mrs. Nieto thanked Mrs. Lewis and Ms. Madigan for keeping up with the drama and section foreman gang clubs. Lastly, Mrs. Nieto recognized Ms. Stark, Mr. Bever, and Ms. Heidi for organizing the talent show.

Mrs. Kitzmiller recognized the following:

Shameema Sayeed for always being on campus helping and being so happy and helpful all the time.

Lunch Crew- 9:50 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. daily: Valerie Loveridge, Gigi Annunziato, Marcia Johnson, Cindy Curtis, Keira Vasey, Shameema Sayeed, Carlee McKeever, Carrie Bousfield, Liz Maurer, Yvonne Hernandez, Betty Ayer, Debi Wood, Selina Fontes, Toni Carlson, Christy Kellam, Shawn Ortega, Daun Pruett, Leslie Leonard, Gigi Jacobson, and Kristine Knox. We have had 3 volunteers per day to pass out meals to about 50 families.

ITLs (team leads)- Karma Lewis, Yvonne Madigan, Tracie Livingston, Lindsey Anderson, Robin Campos, Emily Bullington, Kari Matthias, Ken Bever, Mikel Greene, Adrienne Ordaz, Billy Petty, Cindi Carson, Suzanne Brazzell have all been doing a great job communicating with their team and with administration during our building closure.

Toni Carlson- Working hard to register many families digitally as well as communicate open enrollment status to returning families.

Selena Fontes, Kiera Vasey, Cindy Curtis and Kristine Knox for helping record chromebook carts and sanitizing iPads.

2. Consent Agenda

A. Middle School Trip

ACTION

Mrs. Kitzmiller will seek approval from the site council to officially cancel the middle school field trip to California.

Mrs. Nieto motioned to approve, Ms. Slade seconded the motion, the middle school field trip cancellation was approved.

B. Tax Credits **ACTION**

Mrs. Kitzmiller will seek approval from the site council to identify 8th grade middle school field trip tax credits as “undesigned”, and to approve transferring this money to high schools as outlined on the attachment.

Ms. Slade motioned to approve, Ms. Johnson seconded the motion, the motion to identify 8th grade middle school field trip tax credits as “undesigned” and to transfer this money to high schools was approved as presented.

C. 301 Goals **INFORM/ACTION**

Mrs. Kitzmiller will update the council on our 301 goals for the 19/20 school year. She will also seek the council’s approval for payment based on the results of the 301 goals.

Mrs. Kitzmiller reported that all of our 301 goals for Esmond have been completed.

Mrs. Nieto motioned to approve, Mrs. Anderson seconded the motion, the motion was approved as presented.

D. Dress Code **ACTION**

Mrs. Kitzmiller will present an updated 20/21 school year dress code for approval.

Mrs. Nieto motioned to approve, Mrs. Ordaz seconded the motion, the new dress code was approved as presented for the 20/21 school year.

3. Old Business

A. Staff & Enrollment **INFORM**

Mrs. Kitzmiller will update the Council on current staff and student enrollment at Esmond.

Esmond was approved for a student services coordinator, which we are very excited about. This person can help with families, students, and teachers. Interviews will begin the 2nd week of May.

B. COVID-19 Check In **INFORM**

Mrs. Kitzmiller will seek feedback from the council regarding the school closure and the idea of school resuming in July.

Mrs. Kitzmillier: What are you thoughts and feelings if we were to open in July? What else are you hearing from other parents? Vail is one of the first schools to open in our area, so if we do open, what precautions would need to be in place, etc.?

Mrs. Ordaz: My kids want to go back, everyone's ready to go back.

Mr. Yee: We're all ready to go back. I would be okay with sending my kids back. I saw a news article that more testing is opening up, which is key to knowing the spread.

Mrs. Ordaz: The sped team said it's been challenging to provide support for their students, so from that perspective it would be nice to get back as long as it's safe and we're ready to go back.

Mrs. Nieto: As a parent my kids are saying they want to go back. They miss the structure. I would trust that the school/district would make it safe to come back. If the school feels it's ready to receive students, I would trust that.

Mrs. Anderson: My kids feel the same and are ready to go back. I question what would happen to students/families who are high risk?

Mrs. Kitzmiller: We have digital learning in place within the district, and we have chronic health plans that we can use to help those families. We don't have as much digital learning for lower grades, so the district is looking into that. The staff at Esmond wants to come back as long as it's safe.

Mrs. Nieto: Would there be some blended options for students to join the classroom from home via cameras in the classrooms for students who cannot be in the classroom?

Mrs. Kitzmiller: We did this in the past at Empire during the whooping cough outbreak.

Mrs. Kitzmiller also talked about a newspaper article that misquoted someone in our district. Our district does not have a solid plan for next year, although there are conversations happening and people are beginning to plan for that.

4. New Business

A. Advanced Math

INFORM

Mrs. Carson will address the council regarding advanced math at Esmond for the 20/21 school year.

Mrs. Carson said in the past we always had kids do a posttest at the end of the year, even though they never performed well on it. Instead of that, we will use a basic 5 criteria: AzMerit proficient score, Benchmarks- average 80% or higher, grades- 90-100%, teacher recommendation, and a strong work ethic and self-motivation. For students who want to go two grade levels above would need to take it through Vail Digital Learning.

Mrs. Anderson: Can they take a class at VDL and advanced math at Esmond to try to go two levels up?

Mrs. Carson: It's best if they wait one or two quarters to make sure they have a good foundation beforehand.

Mr. Yee: For my son in 8th grade, he was taking geometry through VDL, and he hasn't had any issues balancing all of his Esmond work and VDL work. He started at the semester break, so he had that foundation that Mrs. Carson talked about.

Mrs. Kitzmiller: Some of this depends on pre-requisite classes, and we want to make sure students aren't missing anything foundational.

5. Agenda Items

INFORM

Mrs. Kitzmiller: We don't have anything on the agenda for May at this point. Can we cancel the May meeting? If something comes up, we will of course schedule a May meeting.

Mrs. Nieto: what about voting for site council members next year?

Mrs. Kitzmiller: We will do it at the welcome back night if that happens this year. Or we will do it online if we can't do it in person.

6. Next Meeting

ACTION

Tentatively scheduled for May 14th, but if nothing comes up, we won't hold a May meeting.

7. Adjournment

ACTION

Mrs. Nieto motioned to adjourn, Ms. Slade and Mrs. Ordaz seconded the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.