

Gateway Elementary School

"Success Begins Here!"

School Improvement Council --- SIC

Agenda - August 29, 2024 @ Noon

In attendance- Susan Stublely, Jake Gambrell, Betsy Steifle, Kelly Latham, Ellison Hargis, Marcie Bunch, Amanda Link, Stephanie Martin

Minutes: Assign a volunteer--send to Brian to post on the website

Principal/Assistant Principal:

- Thank you for a GREAT Start
- New faces! Guidance--Ellison Hargis, 5th--Kim Goodman, Multi--Cat--Gigi Varghese and Amber Daigle, Paras: Sarah Guth, and Lori Gryskovich, Sami Thompson, Maintenance--Drew Toth, RA Traveling Team: Art--Laura Shaw, PE--Walker Wyatt, Music--Heather Nash
- State Report Cards Released on October 10th
- Floating K5 para position
- LETRS Training
- Ongoing benchmark assessments in all grades
- College Football Kickoff Tomorrow!
- Bus Punch Cards to promote positive behavior

IC:

- MAP testing finishing up for first grade.

School Counselor:

- New Counselor--Ellison Hargis
- Our Counselor Schedules and grade levels (Hargis-- 2, 4, 5, every day; Neff K5, 1, 3, Monday, Wednesday, Thurs AM)
- We presented 2 Anti-Bullying Assemblies, K4--2nd, 3--5
- Book bag Buddies - Food has been delivered from our partners at the Cliffs. Letters have gone out to students to participate. We will start sending the bags home mid September.
- We provided orientations to all new kids to Gateway. 1st through 5th Grade
- We will begin going into classes to teach lessons using a program called Quaver Ready which focuses on self awareness, self management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making.

Literacy Specialist Report:

- LETRS Training
- HMH / Amira
- Reading Horizons (Kindergarten-2nd Grade)

Teacher (Faculty rep) Report-

- None at this time

PTA-

- Volunteers- Volunteer Orientation was this morning. We had a huge turnout!
 - Send out a Google Form to ask teachers how they would like to utilize grandparents.
- Book Fair
 - UN-Book Book Fair - Students can shop for all the fun extra things they love at the regular book fair without the books.
- VIP
 - Selling Safari Themed T-Shirts - We are wild about reading!

President's Report-

- Community Service opp for kids
- Shoe collection

Ideas to Share:

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MINUTES

Principal/Assistant Principal:

- We have many new students due to the growth in our area, and new hires have been welcomed. There have also been some changes to positions within the staff.
- To help with Kindergarten class size, a floating para position has been posted.
- LETRS training goes along with Reading Horizons which we are already using. It is a very intensive training.
- The first learning walk has been scheduled to allow administration to provide feedback to teachers, and a district team will join learning walks in SPED classrooms.
- SPED will be getting a program to assist in goal setting and monitoring.
- Our tailgate kickoff is Friday 8/20 which will build awareness of higher education among our student population.
- Bus riders have punch cards to promote positive student behavior while on the bus. Bus behavior has been a concern in the community. Students also have assigned seats on the bus. Two staff members have been riding the bus to help manage behavior.

School counselor:

- Additional school supplies available throughout the school year would be helpful.
- Incorporating videos to help students learn basic language skills in languages other than English will improve inclusiveness.

Literacy Coach:

-Amira is new this year and is an AI program for benchmarking. Parents will be receiving a report on each student. Since assessment is changing, reading level will no longer be referred to by a letter A-Z. It will be a number. For example, 3.2 means a third grade level, second month. Amira also has a tutoring aspect that students will use at school. Students seem to really enjoy using it. Research suggests using it the amount of time we are currently using it at school, so home use is not recommended at this time.

Teacher rep:

-LETRS has been time consuming. Teachers can use their stipend to pay for college credit if that is their preference.

PTA:

- Many families attended both the PTA training and the new volunteer training for grandparents to participate. Teachers will give feedback on how volunteers can best assist them. We have about ~170 interested volunteers!
- In place of a book fair, PTA will sell a specially designed t-shirt. They will also host an "unbook fair" to raise money by selling items that students enjoy, which will coincide with VIP Day. PTA hopes that this will help with the disappointment of not having a book fair this year, and there are several events currently in planning that are aimed at recouping the cost lost on canceling the book fair.

President's Report:

- The shoe drive went really well, and the money raised with those funds have gone back to the community, including the children's park being built in Travelers Rest. It is important for kids to know that their actions can have a positive impact on the community.
- We are looking for more ways for students to get involved in their community.