**MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 13, 2024 REGULAR MEETING**

**SIDNEY GUTIERREZ MIDDLE SCHOOL**

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Council was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at the Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art, located at 409 East College Boulevard, Roswell, NM 88201. Governing Council members Yasine Armstrong, Kelly Smith and Michael Taylor were present in person. Shawna Perry was present by phone. Joe Andreis and Olga Atkinson were present by invitation. Governing Council President Yasine Armstrong called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Action Items:**

1. **Minutes for January 16, 2024 Regular Meeting**

Minutes were reviewed for the regular Governing Council meeting and accepted as presented. Yasine Armstrong moved to approve the minutes as presented and the motion was seconded by Kelly Smith. The motion passed unanimously. No further discussion was held on the matter.

1. **BARS**

Olga Atkinson presented BARS;

BAR 2324-0011-I for fund 23000 Increase in the amount of $500.00

BAR 2324-0012-I for fund 31703 Increase in the amount of $40,863.65

BAR 2324-0013-M for fund 11000/1000 Maintenance

BAR 2324-0014-M for fund 11000/2000 Maintenance

BAR 2324-0015-I for fund 23000 Increase in the amount of $375.39 Increase.

Yasine Armstrong moved to approve the BARs as presented, the motion was seconded by Kelly Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **New Board Members – Discussion Only**.

Sidney Gutierrez's board is currently in need of a fifth board member. One potential candidate is Barb Evans. Additional letters of interest are encouraged to be submitted to bring a diverse range of candidates to the table.

1. **Review of Governing Council’s role in academics**.

Sidney's board role is to establish goals and expectations for academic performance in collaboration with the head of school. The head of school then implements these goals and ensures they are achieved. It's important to clarify that the board's responsibility does not involve delving into the day-to-day operations of the school. Instead, the board's primary functions include setting policy, overseeing the hiring and termination of personnel, and evaluating head of school performance based on the metrics established by the school.

1. **Head of school evaluation**.

Ms. Armstrong will distribute several examples of evaluations to each board member. The board will then collectively decide which evaluation method to use.

1. **MOY test results**.

All packets for the MOY (Mid-Year) assessments have been sent out.

With the exception of one grade level, all have shown more positive results than previous proficiency rates. Overall, there has been a positive trend across the board, and we have managed to reduce the number of students needing additional support, particularly among the lower quartile students.

In terms of math proficiency rates: third grade - proficiency is around target at 50%, up from the 30s in last year. Fourth grade - 45% proficiency. Fifth grade - 45% proficiency. Additionally, sixth grade proficiency is currently at 73%, seventh grade at 67% (with no students needing support), and eighth grade at an impressive 91% proficiency.

Regarding reading proficiency, improvements has been shown across all grades compared to the previous year: 38%, 77%, 59%, 73%, 60%, and 82%.

For language usage: third grade - 55%, fourth grade - 52%, fifth grade -52%, sixth grade - 55%, seventh grade -52%, eighth grade - 70% and 77%.

Sidney’s staff has made a concerted effort, especially with seventh graders, to ensure they are prepared for eighth grade and high school. This focus on readiness has been a cornerstone of school’s success this year, despite facing numerous challenges such as illness and frequent teacher absences.

1. **Sidney Gutierrez School Health Related Policies - Tabled.**

Mr. Joe Andreis requested that the action item tabled until next Governing Council Meeting.

**8.** **Financial Report**

Olga Atkinson provided the monthly Financial Report, along with the monthly breakdown report. Year to date expenditures total $1,178,816.84. It is imperative that ESSERs funds be encumbered and expended by the end of the school year.

**9. Facilities Update**

For the playground, Sidney still have the $7,000 donated specifically allocated for the mulch. Mr. Andreis in the process of finalizing details for the library project, which is scheduled to commence next month. Currently, Mr. Andreis is waiting on one bid to come through. Additionally, Mr. Andreis is considering installing privacy screens for the fence to enhance privacy around the playground area.

**Other Business**

**New Business**

During our January meeting and retreat, it was discussed the need for a job description for an assistant principal. The board determined that hiring an assistant principal is necessary. The board have since engaged in discussions with excellent schools in New Mexico, which should assist Sidney in identifying the right candidate for the position. Ms. Yasine propose to have the job description ready for review at the next meeting. It's important that the job description circulate widely to attract suitable candidates.

1. \*Financial Committee Report

No report presented

1. Principal’s Report

Mr. Andreis currently in the process of actively pursuing candidates for fourth and fifth grade positions. Additionally, there may be another position that will be not renewed. Mr. Andreis evaluating certain programs that are currently in place and considering changing direction, which may involve assigning new responsibilities to future staff members.

Sidney have successfully organized several field trips and plan to continue doing so.

1. **Financial Update**

No update given

1. Public Comment

No public comment

Yasine Armstrong moved to adjourn the meeting. Kelly Smith made the second. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.