# Sullivan Middle School

# School lmprovement Council

# Meeting

# NOTES

 Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:30 – 6:30 pm Zoom Meeting Link

Members present: Kelly Scott (parent), Laura Lawson (parent), Dr. Juan Roldan (Principal), Darlene Del Vecchio (Teacher), Rebecca Wren (parent), Leigh Ann Estes (parent), Mary Ann Kennedy (parent), Donna Mack (teacher) and Holly Stuart (teacher), Jessica Adamson (parent), Mona Letigio (Parent), and Suzanne Ringer (Community Member)

Mrs. Kelly Scott called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

First order of business was to approve the last meeting notes in October 2020.

Kelly conducted a quick “Thankful” survey asking everyone to vote on something they are thankful for today or this month. Results were that people were mostly thankful for their good health!

**School News:** Dr. Roldan shared that the first quarter is wrapped up. Our first monumental quarter for the 20-21 school year. Grades have been slow to come in for some students and there are still several incompletes. Report cards should be issued this week. Hallways and school is still really strange and odd for everyone. There is a potential for all the students to return to school face-to-face every day in the second semester. Plans are being made for this, as well as, plans for remote learning if that has to happen for all. Virtual academy students will continue in their commitment to virtual learning.

**Introductions:** Kelly then went around room and asked folks to introduce themselves since we had 3 new parent participants tonight.

**Riley Award application:** Kelly shared that the first draft of the Case Statement for Riley Award is completed and ready for feedback. We are also waiting for recommendation letters from community members.

**Health & Wellness:** Kelly told group about the RAPS and Parent Academy sessions being hosted by the District, NAMI, Keystone Substance Abuse, Catawba Mental Health, & All on Board. There was session called Surviving and Thriving that we would like to post for our parents from the SIC and get parents feedback about it.

Also reminded everyone to share about the next two NAMI Ending the Silence sessions coming up and will post all in Falcon Flyer under SIC news.

**Perception (Climate) Data from Parents:** Dr. Roldan shared with the SIC that he would like us to gather some data on parents perceptions of how the school is doing during this global pandemic. Are they succeeding in things? Are the parents feeling communicated to? Are there needs that aren’t being met? Etc.

We broke our main group up into 3 breakout groups and discussed questions from a sample of “How family friendly is your school” by Joyce Epstein (see attachment) to use as a guide.

The three groups came back with these results:

* Group 1 There should be a section called Welcoming Environment, but the questions and responses must be tailored to our specific situation of little school visitation and physical distancing and masks and protective shields. Perhaps questions could be about customer service parents or families receive by phone, email, social media etc, in addition to in-person which is not as frequent now.
* Group 2 There should be a topic called Relationships. They referenced question 8 of the document and said to change the response to a frequency response and not a Likert scale. They suggested to use some language to determine how are families feeling welcomed to connect with each other even in the current situation. For example, are there opportunities for families to “meet” online possibly and connect. An example of this is the Facebook page for Sullivan Virtual Academy parents. Also asked about the expectations for teachers/staff members to reach out to parents, and then create question to gauge if this is effective (question11). They liked question 12 to include.
* Group 3 Question 17 was a good question to include, 18 needs to be re-worded and used asking about parents and families collaborating. Reword question 20 to find out if parents are getting communication about the school’s outreach in the community.

A final comment from one parent after the session was that she would really like to hear or know more about the student perceptions of how things are going this school year. Another parent suggested an app or company that provides random “pulse” surveys through the student’s learning management system. In this system, questions randomly pop up and student’s can respond quickly and easily with little disruption to their work. Questions can be controlled by the school/district. More info at <https://kelvin.education/features/>

The next meeting date was set tentatively for December 5, 2020 at 5:30 by Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned.