

Arleta PTA General Meeting Minutes
January 11th 2022
6:05pm-8:00pm

This meeting was held via Zoom

Attendees: Philip Rafferty, Tracy Hulleman (member), Alyson Kraus(member), Heather Rose Pearson (member) Rachael Gottgetreu (member)), Denise Castañon(member), Melissa Olin (member), Ellan Krause, Tiffany Giackino-Baisch (member); Sheryl Moren (member), Chantelle Patterson, Lisa Huglier (member), Katy Lijeholm; (member); Melissa Sircy (member), Kristi Lovato (member), Jessica Rapier, (member) David Sander (member), Nicole Irish (member); Melissa Rinehimer (member); Rachael Walkinshaw (member) Grace Kim (Member), Sondra Blair (member), Kadie Walker, Sare Reilly, Angela Morris (member); Edwina
Declaration:

Call to Order: This meeting was officially called to order by Heather Person Co-President at 6:05 pm. A quorum was met.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement: Heather Pearson- Co-President

Introductions: everyone was invited to introduce themselves, state their connection to Arleta and share one thing they do for self care

Principal Update: Interim Principal Philp Rafferty - see attached presentation

Philip states that they are doing everything they can to keep school open

Arleta has a certain number of staff out for various reasons. When there are staffing issues the principal is responsible for finding coverage; He states that as of Monday, January 10th we were fully staffed at Arleta. He reports that we are one of the only schools that had all of its contract tracing completed. He reports that in general, we have had about 15-16% absence rate for all reasons (not just Covid) and in a typical winter we would average about 10% absence rate during cold and flu season;

Guidance is going to change even as early as today around processes that were put in place during early Covid, Some policies and procedures are now outdated; As these get updated, it should make it easier and we likely will not have as many adults out; With these policy changes, staffing absences should decrease and the focus will be more on unvaccinated kids and they plan to test them to allow them to stay on site

If we end up in distance learning the first day would be a teacher planning day. The expectation is that the teacher would meet with kids for at least 3 hours a day but this will look different depending on grade level; They will try and distribute computers at the school for grades K-2 and provide QR codes to make it easy for kids to login.

He reports that teachers feel very supported by the PTA

He is wondering how best to use our Run For the Arts money. He would like to make sure it incorporates every grade level. Now that we have an art teacher on staff we could likely do an outside fence project in-house and use our Run for the Artes money otherwise; Whitman has had issues with their fence art due to graffiti. What would a bigger project look like for our school and how can it reflect that we are a community school? He plans to do an audit of the school to see where the best places for new art could be located; He is seeking engagement and input on ideas for outside art projects; Red Yarn is going to work with kindergarten classes and hopefully, we can have a performance

Philip would like a PTA subcommittee for the budget to discuss teacher PTA fund allocations, reserves/balancing budget etc

Philip would also like to get a Site Council up and running again. This is a coalition of Admin, PTA/Parents, and Teachers. The council focuses on improvement of the school, including instructional programs, the development, and coordination of plans to improve the professional growth of school staff etc.

Arleta currently has 3 goals:

1. Climate based- our school will focus on the inclusion and safety of everyone
- 2 Reading growth
3. Math growth- plan to use test and class-based scores

He would like to get this committee going so Arleta can be in compliance. This council can also be used to help advocate for our school; He will send out more information soon. The group will meet about once a month. It is a requirement to have at least 6 meetings a year so meetings would run January- June virtually for an hour from 2:30-3:30 pm.

Philip has also started school-wide common area expectations and kids are rewarded with dolphins when doing well with these. They can be earned by the student or by the entire class. Last week they earned 76 dolphins. Currently, there are weekly/monthly classroom celebrations and the plan is to have a whole school celebration this Spring to celebrate.

There is currently a signup genius for lunch volunteers.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f45a8a92da3ffc70-arletaT>

This is greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have volunteered their time. Please sign up for a shift if you are able.

Volunteers need to be background checked and provide proof of vaccination Apply here: [PPS School Volunteer Application Process](#)

Interim Principal Rafferty will be communicating with a weekly message in the Dolphin Digest, School Messenger, in person before and after school and through email. Please contact anytime at prafferty@pps.net

Southeast Guiding Collitaion (SEGC) Update- Sondra Blair

SEGC is a group of community stakeholders who are working as an advisory panel for redistricting. This work has been going on for 10 years; One thing the group previously identified was that K-8 schools were not working well for most students; the board was charged with looking at outer SE schools; Arleta originally a k-5 then went to a k-8 and then in the fall of 2021 Arleta returned to a K-5 with students attending Kellogg.

SEGS has been meeting since last May for phase II; 3 proposals have been put forward:

Proposal A, CSS would move to Woodstock School. The Chinese DLI program at Woodstock would move to Bridger School, and the school boundaries would shrink, taking in fewer neighborhood students to accommodate CSS.

In **Proposal B**, CSS would move to Arleta School, dispersing more than half our student population into four other schools.

Proposal C would move CSS to Bridger School.

More information can be found here: <https://www.pps.net/enrollmentbalancing>

Sondra reports that Proposal C has so far been met with more enthusiasm after resistance with Proposal A and B.

SEGC has recently been divided into 3 subcommittees. The first committee is researching a location for CSS. The 2nd committee is looking at where the Spanish DLI should be sited. The 3rd committee is looking at where the Mandarin DLI program should be sited; If CSS is located at Bridger then their spanish DLI program needs to move. It has been proposed that the Bridger Spanish DLI program be housed at Arleta; There are approximately 200 students in the DLI program; Arleta has approximately 312 students; Arleta is at 78% capacity and it looks like we have classrooms and space available but Flo Analytics and the district measure space differently; Arleta had limited space with teachers using halfways, the auditorium stage etc to teach when we had 515 students.

There has been discussion of a preschool program at Arleta; We would be perfectly situated for this with our annex building; Adding cars to our neighborhood would not be feasible with some of the other proposals as we do not have a place to stage busses. The transportation would get complicated.

There are lots of questions about the best placement for a DLI program. Should they be a whole school or should they join a neighborhood school? Would a DLI program do better at lower or higher SES schools? Do they take away resources, support or funding from the neighborhood school where they are housed?

If a student is on an IEP they will remain on an IEP regardless of which proposal is chosen.

The Bridger community appears to have a number of factors in favor of joining Arleta; Boundaries will be worked out later; if we don't have CSS we should be able to keep a larger catchment of our Arleta population Sondra is working on maintaining as much of the Arleta population as possible

Sean Bird, our deputy superintendent, is leaving;

SEGC is hoping to make a decision in March

Email Sondra with any questions or feedback: sondramblair@gmail.com

Committee Updates:

Garden Committee: Sondra Blair- They made \$250 off of the poinsettia sales. The Arleta Spring Spruce Up will be on Saturday, March 12; She is purchasing supplies and is still looking for a classroom garden educator. This position would pay \$15/hr and includes written lesson plans. She plans to have 3-4 garden club meetings this spring.

Fundraising- Melissa Olin- There is now a monthly Dolphin Drive fundraiser through memberhub. Currently, we are raising money for Reflex math, a nonfiction book collection for the 2nd grade teachers and snacks for the SES and SPED students. We have raised \$225 so far with this fundraiser. Our dine out for January has been postponed; Bottle drop bags are available; Information regarding the Valentine Brunch will be published in the next week;

Inclusion Committee: Sheryl Moren- The sensorimotor library has been implemented. It is mostly so teachers can test objects for their students like wiggle stools, lap pads, weighted vests and then look into purchasing more quantities of needed items. They do have funding to keep this going.

BIPOC families are gathering for SEGC input. They were able to have a meeting with Michelle DePass from the PPS Board. They provided input that they are moving too fast and that they need to slow down before making so many sudden changes.

Green Team: Tracy Hulleman- We have sold about 30 yard signs so far. This is our fundraiser to hopefully purchase nondisposable water bottles for all students. Our next focus will be on improving school recycling.

Teacher Grant- Heather Pearson: All requests were able to be funded except Reflex Math and only half of the 2nd grade team's non-fiction book collections were funded. The remaining funds for Reflex Math and the 2nd Grade Nonfiction books will be funded through the Dolphin Drive. Purchases were made with Amazon Smile to also benefit the Arleta PTA

Treasurer Report- Melissa Rinehimer: see attached report.

We had \$2091 dollars in revenues for November and December

Expenses were approximately \$11,000 mostly on books for the DEI and literacy program

We currently have just under \$33,000 to spend

A motion was made to approve a PTA Venmo account by Denise Castañon. We currently use Paypal through member hub; A PTA Venmo account could be used for outside sales. with no fees allowing for easy transactions. The motion was seconded and the vote was approved in favor of the Arleta PTA Venmo Account and accepted into record.

Minutes: The minutes from the General Meeting on November 9th, 2021, were approved as written and accepted into record.

Raffle Drawing- \$50 gift card to Target- Winner Sare Reilly

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00pm

Signed into record with / without changes on _____.

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm