**PANTHER ACADEMY**

**SITE BASE COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes**

**July 28, 2014**

**9:00 a.m.**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Kelly Graham.
2. **Members Present:** Kelly Graham; Betsy Beach; Amy Truitt; Nicole Hines; Jerisia Lamons; and Secretary, Kim Druen.
3. **Members Absent:** Hollie Butler
4. **Guests:** None
5. **Agenda:** Approved by concensus
6. **Dates Set for Upcoming Council Meetings:**  Consensus to meet on the following dates (all starting at 2:30 p.m. on Mondays): August 25th ; September 29th; October 27th; November 24th; December 15th; January 26th; February 23rd; March 30th; April 27th; May 18th.
7. **Distribution/Introduction of Council Documents:** Ms. Graham shared updated documents for all members’ binders and discussed importance of all members taking time to read the bi-laws and policies that have been adopted. Special attention and time at this meeting was given to reviewing the Emergency Plan Policy and discussion of the Crisis Management Team for Panther Academy. Ms. Graham stated that the school continues to work in partnership with both E’town Police and State Police in providing safety checks, etc. Ms. Graham stated that Doug Frederick, Administrative Assistant for PA has done an exceptional job working with the police departments in keeping the building safe.
8. **Approval of May 19 & May 29:** Betsy Beach moved to approve May minutes and Jarisia Lamons seconded.
9. **Principal’s Report:** Kindergarten Enrollment is now up to 155 students and 132 of these were screened using the new Brigance Screen Requirement for all incoming KG students. KG teachers recently on July 22 worked in different shifts from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 to complete them. On July 23, the scores from these screenings were of major importance in placing students in homerooms. Class lists were formed for all KG students that attended Kinder-Camp on July 24th and 25th. This was a huge success, and each of our 9 KG teachers had between 10 and 17 show up for this special “get acquainted with school” camp. The News Enterprise did a front page picture and article about the camp too! Transportation is still the biggest challenge at this age! Every effort is being made to work out arrangements for transportation for the first day of school, but this is always a work in progress that takes a few weeks. Ms. Lamons suggested the Preschool possibly having a preschool camp in the future much like the Kinder-Camp. This will be looked into possibly for next year, and Ms. Graham did state that all preschool teachers do visit the students’ homes prior to preschool attending to help ease the transition from home to school. Currently preschool teachers are screening 3 and 4 year olds using the Brigance Screener for this age group. Preschool teachers are excited as this should be easier to administer than the DIAL 4 they have used in the past. Preschool teachers will also use these results to help form their classrooms, while keeping students that were 3 years old from last year again this current year. Both preschool and kindergarten consider race, gender, IEPs, etc. when creating balanced classrooms. Ms. Graham stated that real efforts are being made to work with HEAD START in meeting the required number of 4 year olds in their program first, before attending PA. as required by law. Currently Head Start is full and numbers look good. (Head Start must have 24 four year olds before we accept them to PA.) Members today discussed how beneficial it would be for all schools some day in the future to have a Universal Preschool where ALL preschool age students could come to school! This would be what is best for ALL kids. Ms. Graham spoke to the members about the new Born Learning Academy Program that the EIS FRYSC just received a grant for, which will promote educational programs once a month for all parents and children from birth to 5 years. The Tell Survey was shared with the Council and Ms. Graham explained the importance of its use every two years in guiding all teachers and staff with the new PGES (Professional Growth Effectiveness System). Ms. Graham explained the importance of PGES and its major PD focus for the upcoming school year.
10. **Instructional Resources Purchasing Plan:** The Council approved the purchasing plan for the Sing, Spell, Read and Write Program which is the core of the KG curriculum and essential for building foundational skills. These should be in first week of school. This will help the school retain more of their section 6 funds. Curriculum Committee will continue to research other programs as well that may be less expensive and/or not consumables.
11. **Program Review Needs:** Ms. Graham mentioned what this is to the new members and also explained what mainly the focus for PA will involve for this year. Continued training in Art, Music, and PE for all teachers is needed, as well as a push to get increased community involvement in the school through Career Day, School Safety Programs, Practical Living skills, etc. Also SECOND STEPS, a counseling and social skills program will be introduced to all kindergarten students this year after teachers are trained. (Currently, preschool uses this program already.) Ms. Graham encouraged all members to take some time to read the Self-Assessment on Program Reviews.
12. **Second Reading of Parent Involvement Policy:** Amy Truitt motioned to approve and Betsy Beach seconded it. The importance of parents getting involved needs to be stressed and mentioned at open houses coming up. Jarisia Lamons will now serve on this committee.
13. **Second Reading of the Discipline/Classroom Management Policy:** Betsy Beach motioned to approve and Nicole Hines seconded.
14. **Budget Updates:** Section 6 is the same. Sometimes there are additional funds that come to us in September, so we will wait and see. Title I funds mostly go towards the Response to Intervention Coach.
15. **Professional Development:** Ms. Graham stated once again that the PGES will be this year’s main PD focus. Also, she explained some of the sessions that will be offered at the upcoming EIS Teaching and Learning Conference on August 1 and 4. Several needed sessions will be offered in addition to PGES Training such as ART and MUSIC (that our teachers will attend); as well as technology, science, math, etc.
16. **Meeting Adjourned:** Meeting was adjourned at 10:41.