

VAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Cottonwood Elementary School
Site Base Council Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2018, 4:00 PM

The meeting of the Cottonwood Site Base Council was called to order by Mrs. Sarah Bates. Members present were: Mrs. Meridy Twilling, Mrs. Tasha Blum, Mr. Tom Kruszewski, Mrs. Kari Joanides, Ms. Kristin Salerno, Mrs. Sharon Hodges-Owen and Mrs. Carol Saldaña. Also present included, Mrs. Linda Reusch and Mrs. Kiki Ngo.

Election of Site Council Chair: Mrs. Tasha Blum was nominated by Mrs. Kari Joanides for Site Council Chair position. With no other nominations, Mrs. Blum was elected.

Election of Clerk: Mrs. Kari Joanides was nominated by Mrs. Tasha Blum for the Clerk position. With no other nominations, Mrs. Joanides was elected.

Establishment of dates, times and place for meetings of the Site Council: Ms. Salerno moved to hold the meeting time and place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 4:00 pm, in the Cottonwood Elementary library. Mrs. Saldaña seconded, the motion carried. Dates were set for upcoming meetings through December.

Mr. Kruszewski moved to approve the Minutes of April 17, 2018, Mrs. Saldaña seconded, the motion carried.

Member Reports:

Mrs. Twilling shared that there had been quite a bit of positive feedback in regards to the new system in place where students sign up for afterschool clubs and activities. Parents were impressed with all of the new options for their children as well.

Mrs. Blum and Mrs. Joanides both shared comments regarding the parking lot during dismissal. Mrs. Blum shared that she thought that things were running smoother and that cars seemed to be clearing out quicker at dismissal. Mrs. Joanides shared that it is still quite congested and that people were improperly parking in the fire lane in the front loop of school during dismissal. Mrs. Bates shared she had a few ideas that might help with the process in the front loop area.

Administrative Report: Mrs. Bates reported on the following:

- Congratulations to our new Site Council members: Sharon Hodges-Owen, Meridy Twilling and Natascha Blum
- Current Enrollment: 622 (projected 650)
- Shared data of Parent Request Results
- 415 club spots filled with over 300 students participating
- Joseph Peglow- Eagle Scout Project
- Stories that Soar

August Activities:

- Half Day-Teacher Inservice (8/15)
- Student Council-School Wide Campaigning Week (8/27-8/31)
- Half Day-Teacher Inservice (8/29)

September Activities:

- Labor Day-No School (9/3)
- Stories that Soar! Show (9/7)
- Scholastic Book Fair (9/7-9/14)
- Science Benchmark, 4th Grade Only (9/11)
- Parent Teacher Conferences (9/13 & 9/14)
- Student Council Spirit Week (9/17-9/21)
- Family Reading Night (9/20)
- Advanced Math Benchmark (9/20 & 9/21)
- Fall Break (9/24-10/12)
- Fall Intersession (9/24-9/27)

Recognitions:

Ms. Salerno recognized those that created the new process for students to sign up for afterschool clubs and activities. She shared that it was such a smooth transition from last year! She also wanted to recognize Rebekah Valverde for creating an awesome new design for Cottonwood t-shirt's!

Mrs. Blum wanted to recognize those that thought of the idea of having the red carpet treatment for all students as they arrived on the first day of school, it was really great!

Mrs. Bates recognized the following individuals/groups:

The Specialist team hosting a wonderful Club Showcase at our Meet the Teacher night.

Successful start with the new VIP and Ventana programs housed at CWE.

Lorena Sutton for creating the Leader in Me "proactive" keynote lesson for certified staff.

Terri Akers for developing many new trainings for staff at the start of the school year and what a significant impact her role has made around campus.

Jill VanAsdlan and Kristin Moross for their hard work in making the AR program more enjoyable.

Nikki Hawkins and Chris D'Oca for their hard work over the summer cleaning and decorating all of the student restrooms on campus.

Debby Gunderson for creating a wonderful Clubs sign up document.

Consent Agenda:

A. Field trips: **(None)**

ACTION

B. Fundraisers: **(Approve):**

ACTION

Scholastic Book Fair, September 7-18, 2017

Scholastic Book Fair, February 1-9, 2018

Mr. Kruszewski moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mrs. Saldaña seconded, the motion carried.

Old Business: (None)

New Business:

Discussions took place on the following topics:

- A) **AZ Merit** – Mrs. Bates shared the Math and ELA AzMerit testing data from the past three years on how Cottonwood and the rest of the Vail school's results from the AzMerit test in comparison with the rest of the school districts in Arizona. Cottonwood had huge growths in all areas!

- B) **EEP Plans** - Mrs. Bates shared the EEP plans for the upcoming school year. Teachers submit abstracts for different programs that they are interested in coordinating for our students for the upcoming school year. The Site Council reviewed the plans and approved them.

Mr. Kruszewski moved to approve the EEP plans for the 2018/2019 school year, Mrs. Blum seconded, the motion carried.

- C) **Afterschool Activities and Clubs**– Mrs. Bates presented Site Council with a list of the afterschool activities and clubs for the 18/19 school year.

Ms. Salerno approved the Afterschool Activities and Clubs as presented. Mrs. Joanides seconded, the motion carried.

- D) **Tax Credit Information-Craft Day Fund 1304** – Mrs. Bates shared that we have a stipend and materials to pay for Cottonwood's Craft Day in the amount of \$818.69. Our Vail School District accountants are in need of a vote from our Site Council members in order to process the stipend and materials expenses. The funds would be from our undesignated fund of Cottonwood's tax credit account.

Mrs. Blum approved the Tax Credit distribution for Craft Day fund 1304 as presented. Mr. Kruszewski seconded, the motion carried.

- E) **Tax Credit Information/Use of Undesignated Funds** – Mrs. Bates shared that throughout the 18/19 school year, extracurricular activities that are tax credit eligible, may need to use greatest needs, also known as undesignated funds, that is prior year carry over as well as current year greatest needs/undesignated contributions for extra expenses to include stipends, tutoring, resources and materials.

Mrs. Twilling approved the Tax Credit distribution as presented. Ms. Salerno seconded, the motion carried.

- F) **Korean Exchange Program** – Mrs. Reusch shared that Cottonwood will be participating in a Korean Exchange program. There will be 10 students coming to America for 4 weeks. Cottonwood will host 4th and 5th grade students on campus. Prior to the visit, staff will receive training about the Korean culture and will also hold a parent night to discuss the process for those families that would be interested in accommodating the students while they are visiting. Students will also be taking field trips and becoming fully absorbed in the Tucson environment!

G) **COVE** – Mrs. Kiki Ngo was a special guest at the Site Council meeting to share information about the upcoming proposition 468. Mrs. Ngo shared documents that highlighted a few of the proposition projects proposed for Vail. Mrs. Ngo wanted to bring awareness to the items and what the difference between a Bond and a Proposition were.

H) **Updated Behavior Grid** - Mrs. Bates shared an updated Behavior Grid to Site Council Members. Mrs. Terri Akers, Cottonwood’s Behavior Specialist, developed an easier format of the grid and has created trainings for the certified and classified staff on minor and major behaviors within the different grade levels. Mrs. Akers will be electronically uploading the data, which can be viewed at the end of each quarter sharing discipline actions that have taken place.

Mr. Kruszewski moved to approve the updated Behavior Grid for the 2018/2019 school year, Mrs. Blum seconded, the motion carried.

Ms. Salerno moved to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, Ms. Saldaña seconded, the motion carried. Mrs. Reusch moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Salerno seconded, the motion carried.

Submitted by: Dawn Ball, Acting Clerk

Date

SITE COUNCIL APPROVAL:

Tasha Blum, Chair

Sharon Hodges-Owen, Teacher Member

Kari Joanides, Clerk

Kristin Salerno, Teacher Member

Meridy Twilling, Parent Member

Carol Saldaña, Classified Member

Tom Kruszewski, Community Member