

VAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Cottonwood Elementary School**  
Site Base Council Meeting Minutes  
**March 14, 2020, 4:00 PM**

The meeting of the Cottonwood Site Base Council was called to order by Mrs. Tasha Blum. Members present were: Mrs. Meridy Twilling, Mrs. Kristy Joyce, Mr. Tom Kruszewski and Mrs. Carol Saldaña. Also present included, Mrs. Sarah Bates and Mrs. Linda Reusch.

Mrs. Twilling moved to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2020, Mr. Kruszewski seconded, the motion carried.

**Member Reports:**

No Member Reports shared

**Administrative Report:** Mrs. Bates reported on the following:

- Current Enrollment: 605
- Resignation – Krista Hooper, Kendra Starkey, Amy Moore, Jaime Harris, Valerie Barnes, Kim Gavin & Monica Gault
- New Hires – Ashley Holmes & Michele Stewart-sped paras
- Transfers – Sonja Kampelman to DWE, Kelly Campbell to Esmond Station
- Staff PSA scores, nationwide average for staff scores is 68%, Cottonwood was 91%!

**March Activities:**

- Love of Reading Week (3/2-3/6)
- End of 3rd Quarter-Report Cards Ready (3/6)
- Spring Break (3/9-3/20)
- PTSA Chalk Art Festival (3/27)
- Bus Evacuation Drill (3/30)

**April Activities:**

- PTSA Meeting (4/1)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science AIMS (4/2)
- Student Council Skate Night (4/3)
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Performing Arts Performance, VTOTA (4/7)
- Good Friday-No School (4/10)
- Progress Reports Ready (4/17)
- PTSA Pastries with Parents (4/24)

**Recognitions:**

Mrs. Saldaña wanted to recognize everyone involved with the Kindergarten Round Up. There were lots of staff members that contributed to the success of the event.

**Mrs. Bates recognized the following individuals:**

- Club leaders for the variety of enriching opportunities that they provide for our students.
- Instructional team leaders for their steadfast leadership through 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
- Rebekah Valverde for her preparation of testing.

**Consent Agenda:****ACTION****A. Field trips: (Approve)**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade to Desert Museum (4/1/20)4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade to Vail Theater of the Arts (4/7/20)

Kindergarten to Reid Park Zoo (4/9/20)

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade to Arizona History Museum (4/28/20 & 4/30/20)1<sup>st</sup> Grade to U of A Flandrau (4/29/20)**B. Fundraisers: (None)**

Mr. Kruszewski moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Saldaña seconded, the motion carried.

**Old Business:****INFORM & DISCUSS****Playground Design/Donations**

Mrs. Bates shared we have raised enough money to start the process of installing our new playground equipment. We were able to have our own facilities department take care of demolition and installation of the wood fiber for the ground around the new play structure. Demolition has begun and will continue over Spring Break.

**Kindergarten Round Up**

Mrs. Bates shared that we had 67 Kindergarten students with their families attend our Kindergarten Round Up. There were five Vail schools holding the event the same night and we considered this a great turn out.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**

The district tried something different for the spring parent/teacher conferences. Instead of all parents attending the conferences during this time, teachers met with only the families where their student was struggling academically. Parents that still wanted to meet with the teacher were still given the option to schedule a conference as well. This option was well received by all teachers.

**New Business:****INFORM & DISCUSS****AzMerit Testing**

Mrs. Bates shared dates and information about the approaching AzMerit testing in March and April. Cottonwood has more chrome books this year and are able to hold less testing dates than before.

**20/21 Staffing Update**

Mrs. Bates shared the updates of which staff members would be resigning or transferring to a different school at the end of the school year.

**20/21 Science Fair**

Mrs. Bates shared that she met with Mrs. Maguire to generate and incorporate different ideas with the Science Fair next school year. Mrs. Maguire will be working with the students more on developing better questions for science fair projects. She shared that the students will be working more in depth with their research at school and utilizing their computer lab time for this process. Discussion was held about possibly checking the due dates on the science fair packet so items weren't due so close together.

**Intersession**

Mrs. Bates spoke about the upcoming spring intersession. For fall intersession, Cottonwood tried something different where only half days were offered from 8:00am to 11:00am, with part math and part reading. The process worked great, so we are now offering the same process again for spring intersession.

**ELP Process**

Mrs. Bates was excited to announce that Cottonwood Desert Willow and Ocotillo Ridge will be participating in a new ELP pilot program. Cottonwood moved in a different direction this year with Mrs. John being a half ELP teacher and half Enrichment teacher. All of Cottonwoods second grade students were assessed with the ELP test. Mrs. John worked closely with Mrs. Conger and her students as well as creating a different format of the ELP curriculum to work with all of the different types of strengths with each of our ELP students.

**Site Council Members**

Mrs. Bates shared the Site Council members whose terms would be ending at the end of this school year. Tascha Blum, Meridy Twilling, Sharon Hodges-Owen and Carol Saldaña terms will end. Mr. Kruszewski will have one more year left on his term and will possibly stay on as a community member. Mrs. Bates extended the invitation for all members that the term was expiring, to run for their position again in July.

The next meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, was approved at the first Site Council meeting in August. Mr. Kruszewski moved to adjourn, Mrs. Saldaña seconded, the motion carried.

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Submitted by: Dawn Ball, Acting Clerk

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Date

**SITE COUNCIL APPROVAL:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tasha Blum, Chair

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Sharon Hodges-Owen, Teacher Member

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Meridy Twilling, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tricia Ferguson, Teacher Member

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Kristy Joyce, Parent Member

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Carol Saldaña, Classified Member

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Tom Kruszewski, Community Member