

VAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Cottonwood Elementary School**  
Site Base Council Meeting Minutes  
**January 12, 2021, 4:00 PM**

The meeting of the Cottonwood Site Base Council was called to order by Mrs. Kristy Joyce. Members present were: Mr. Jerry Tipton, Mrs. Crystel Fuenning, Mrs. Tricia Ferguson, Mrs. Marci Becker and Mrs. Carol Saldaña. Absent members were, Mrs. Stacie Riley.

Mrs. Fuenning moved to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2020, Mrs. Saldaña seconded, the motion carried.

**Member Reports:**

No reports given.

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

-Current Enrollment: 511

-Resignations-Candee Gutierrez, Ashleigh Porter, Letha Pridgen & Megan Schmidt

**January:**

Martin Luther King-No School (1/18)

**February:**

-Picture Retakes (2/8)

-Parent/Teacher Conferences, Early Dismissal on 2/11 only(2/11 & 2/12)

-Volunteer and Community Appreciation Event (2/19)

-Vail Pride Day Staff Appreciation (2/19)

-Rodeo Break-No School (2/25 & 2/26)

**Recognitions:**

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

Brittnee Davis for her hard work in pushing us through and achieving Tier 3 level with our PBIS program. Cottonwood is the only school that was able to successful reboot the program and for that, CWE is now a model product of the program.

Kristen Salerno for her efforts and hard work on successfully coordinating Angel Tree items to 34 CWE students and families.

**Consent Agenda:**

**ACTION**

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

B. Fundraisers: **(None)**

**Old Business: (None)**

**INFORM & DISCUSS**

**A) Kinder Round-Up 20/21 School Year**

Mrs. Bates discussed that the district will continue to offer full day Kindergarten throughout all elementary schools. Mrs. Bates shared that Kindergarten Round-Up will be held virtually this year on Wednesday, March 3rd. A prepared video will be available on our Cottonwood website that day and then there will be an opportunity on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> for parents to log into a live question and answer session. Holding this event is a great way to learn about our kindergarten program and help the future kindergartener know what to prepare for the upcoming school year. It is also a great way for us to project the number of kindergarten students we will have coming to our school.

**B) Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Mrs. Bates shared that Parent Teacher conferences are scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The conferences will be held virtually and are only by teacher or parent request.

**C) Vail Pride Day**

Mrs. Bates shared that unfortunately, Vail Pride Day is canceled this year. The annual Volunteer appreciation event will take place at Mica Mountain on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> with a drive thru celebration sponsored by each school.

**D) 2021/2022 School Year Planning**

The annual certified job fair will take place on Friday, March, 5<sup>th</sup>, where administrations will interview potential candidates for teachers in all subjects, speech pathologists and also occupational and physical therapists. Mrs. Bates shared that our staff has been given a document sharing what their intentions will be for the upcoming school year. This will give her a better idea of what her numbers will look like and how many certified staff members she might possibly need to hire for the 21/22 school year. Mrs. Bates also shared that unfortunately numbers are low at our school and we are in the process of reaching out to our families that have withdrawn due to homeschooling, attending a charter school or attending the VIC, to see if they will be returning to our campus for the upcoming school year. It is possible that there will be more Open enrollment applications accepted as there are more openings to fill within the Vail School District.

**E) Benchmark Results**

Mrs. Bates shared the results of our latest Benchmark testing. Our students are struggling, but due to our current challenges, we are in a much better place compared to other school districts. Mrs. Bates also shared that the AzMerit test will still be required and administered this school year and we will be accountable for the results. Despite the challenges and concerns, we are optimistic and feel our students will be ready and prepared.

**F) A+ Application**

Mrs. Bates shared that the Cottonwood team agreed to begin the process to attain the AEF A+ School of Excellence distinctive award again. The application is quite lengthy and will take the entire staff and parents to complete. There is a timeline to follow of when the application must be completed and submitted. Once the application has been submitted, it will be reviewed and then notified by the A+ committee if your site has been chosen for a visit. If you have been selected for a visit, an evaluation team will come to your site over a two day period to observe classrooms, meet with students, staff, parents and community members. Once the evaluation team has completed the site visit, the Site Visit Panel will evaluate and determine which schools will receive the award. In order to prepare, we have chosen section leaders for each category of the application to help write our story. Everyone is very excited about getting the process started again.

The next meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, was approved at the first Site Council meeting in September. Mrs. Fuenning moved to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Saldaña, seconded, the motion carried.

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Submitted by: Dawn Ball, Acting Clerk

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Date

**SITE COUNCIL APPROVAL:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stacie Riley, Chair

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Marci Becker, Teacher Member

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Kristy Joyce, Clerk

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Tricia Ferguson, Teacher Member

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Jerry Tipton Parent Member

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Carol Saldaña, Classified Member

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Crystal Fuenning, Community Member