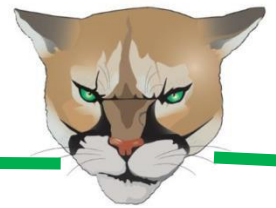


K.O. Knudson School Organizational Team



MEETING MINUTES

K.O. Knudson Academy of Creative Arts and Technology

School Organizational Team Meeting

K.O. Knudson Middle School – Library Annex

Monday, December 16, 2019

6:00pm

School Organizational Team Members present:

Rocio Franco, Amanda Hicks, Yolanda Lowry, Stacey O'Brien, Dora Salguero, Susan Sancrant, Amy Symes, Lezlie Koepp (Principal)

School Organizational Team Members absent:

Jessica Fyffe, Lana Pagkaliwangan (Student)

Welcome

Call to Order

Amanda Hicks, S.O.T. Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from 11/12/2019 S.O.T. meeting not complete; approval moved to next agenda.

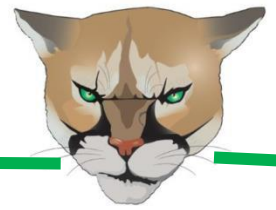
Agenda Items

1. Possible Future Zoning changes

a. Background:

- i. K.O. became one of the first magnet middle schools in 1996; for over 20 years different administrators have been petitioning for K.O. to become full magnet.
- ii. 2016 - Only K.O. (North of D.I.) and White (South of D.I.) were performing arts magnets.
- iii. 2017 – Leid, O'Callahan, and White became full-magnet school.
 1. K.O. admin protested this decision since they had been asking for full-magnet for so long. K.O. was told there were some zoning issues in the south side and White going full-magnet would solve said zoning issues. K.O. was then told that Fremont M.S. was to be rebuilt and K.O. could be considered to become full-magnet after that was completed.

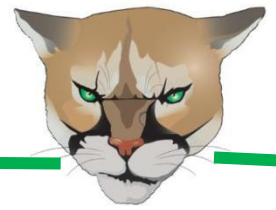
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iv. October 2019 - rezoning information was given through email. K.O. administration followed up about previous conversation to become full-magnet. Principal meeting was held to answer any questions about rezoning. At that meeting the following information was given:

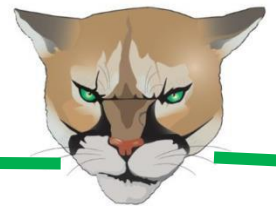
1. Old Bishop Gorman site will have a new CTE Workplace building that serves grades 6-12. That school will only have 600 seats with most being reserved for high school students; leaving approximately only 200 seats for middle school students.
2. Fremont will receive a new building and become a K-8 full-magnet dual language program. Middle school capacity will be about 350-400.
3. The proposal from A.Z.A.C. has about 1/3 of zoned K.O. kids sent to Mack, and most of the remainder of current Fremont kids will be sent to K.O.
4. Currently, K.O. has 650 zoned students and 700 magnet students. The proposal has the number of zoned kids increasing from 650 to 1150. With K.O. currently is at capacity with 1360 students. 1150 zoned students, would only leave about 150/200 seats available for magnet students.
 - a. Inequity when comparing K.O. and White, the only arts integration/performing arts middle schools in the valley. White which serves the community south of Desert Inn, has approximately 1600 available magnet seats, compared to K.O. which serves the community north of Desert Inn who only has about 700 magnet seats available. An 80% difference in available seats if magnet seats are reduced per zoning proposal.
 - b. Although any kid can go to any school, transportation is only provided if you live in the zone.
 - c. S.O.T. members researched on their own time and found the following:

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- i. There are 31 middle schools north of Desert Inn and 23 middle schools south of Desert Inn. That is a difference of about 10,000 students.
- ii. Title I:
 - 1. 87% of schools North of D.I.
 - 2. 78% of schools South of D.I.
- iii. 100 % Free and Reduced lunch:
 - 1. 8 schools (26%) North of D.I.
 - 2. 3 schools South of D.I.
- iv. Performing and Fine Arts program comparison:
 - 1. Orchestra:
 - a. North of D.I. = 80%
 - b. South of D.I. = 91%
 - 2. Choir
 - a. North of D.I. = 50%
 - b. South of D.I. = 82%
 - 3. Theatre
 - a. There are 4 theatre programs North of D.I.,
3 of those are at K.O.
- b. There are currently 2 proposals presented by A.Z.A.C. along with the option for no change.
- c. Parents are urged to go to the Public Input Meeting at Rancho H.S. on January 16, 2020
- d. Public Comments:
 - i. C: The Fremont issue is the crux of the matter. No one in the community knows that the school will be rebuilt as full-magnet. Speaking of inequity, all of the families that are zoned for Fremont have no idea that they are not welcome there, unless they apply and are lucky enough to be selected to attend the school. The crux of the problem is the bait and switch that is happening to all of the people that came out to save their school from being closed only to find out that they now have to apply.

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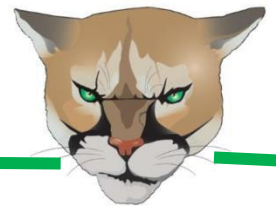
- ii. C: Being that the neighborhoods being affected are highly Spanish-speaking and no information being sent out in Spanish, is even more inequitable than the original issue.
- iii. Q: The meeting on January 16th, will it be an AZAC meeting?
 - 1. It is the final AZAC meeting for public input.
- iv. Q: Why don't they leave the schools as is and let them take care of their own schools?
 - 1. 2 years ago, the discussion was to consider making K.O. full-magnet and Fremont would take the kids that did not make it into K.O. Now it is the exact opposite.
- v. C: Based on the conversations and after attending the AZAC meetings, it seems like the Arts are under attack. Gilbert Magnet School, one of the K.O. feeder schools, recently sent out a survey asking if parents would like to reduce the arts in order to increase the academics. Since changes only started a couple of years ago and the new Superintendent started a couple of years ago, as a parent it seems like the new Superintendent is assaulting the arts.
- vi. C: There is so much proven research that students who are in the arts, do better academically.
- vii. C: Parent who has a student at Jo Mackey, which is another feeder school for K.O. wanted to point out that Mackey will be going K-8 next year. There are several plans that are changing schools to K-8 or 6-12, which is another finger pointing at changes the new superintendent is making.

2. Standard Student Attire Vote

a. Standard Student Attire (SSA)

- i. Mr. Martin passed out an example of the "Student Standard Attire (SSA) Options."
 - 1. The form, due January 3rd, will be submitted to mirror the current SSA options.
- ii. K.O. Knudson is an SSA school and staff is hoping that parents keep SSA.

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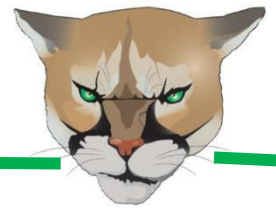


- iii. Adults have overwhelmingly expressed their opinions on maintaining SSA, and some students have approached Mr. Martin about being on board with SSA

General Discussion

1. Districtwide Survey: <https://surveyplatform.ccsdapps.net/>
 - a. Districtwide Survey is now available and parents are urged to fill it out. Parents are reminded that they can fill out the survey for as many students they have in the district. It is important that K.O. has high numbers of participation because the numbers can affect the school rating.
2. ALEKS
 - a. Tabled. The person speaking on ALEKS could not stay since the meeting ran late and will return to a later meeting.
3. Reading Plus
 - a. Mr. Ward presented Reading Plus data
 - i. Quarter 2 average gain is 1.2 levels from Quarter 1, which equals 1 grade level.
 - ii. The percent of students at or close to grade level is up 15%, currently at 41%
 - iii. 7th grade average level gain is ½ grade level, which is 10% increase from quarter 1
 - iv. 8th grade is up 1 grade level from quarter 1; at or close to grade level is up 11%
 - v. With a 15% growth trend, K.O. should be close to 56% of students at or close to grade level by the end of the school year; 46% at or close to grade level for 7th grade; 62% at or close to grade level for 8th grade
 - vi. Reading Plus was originally supposed to be done as homework, however, data showed students were not completing sufficient Reading Plus assignments
 - vii. Reading Plus has been brought into the classroom, and there has been an increased usage of the program.
 - b. Public Comments:
 - i. Q: Is Reading Plus measuring the increase itself or is there supporting data?
 1. There has only been 1 MAPS assessment, so there is no supporting data. MAP data should be available towards the end or mid-January.

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- ii. C: If Reading Plus isn't being completed why did the required number go from 2 to 4?
 - 1. The required Reading Plus went from 2 articles done at home to 4 done in the classroom. The idea behind this is that K.O. cannot afford to purchase a program, not have students use it and still expect to get anything from the program. The purchased program needs to be utilized correctly and see what data is received from the program.
 - 2. The School Improvement Team wanted to make assignments simpler. 4 days of 20 minutes of ALEKS and 4 days of 20 minutes of Reading Plus.
- iii. C: Staff believe this program is better than both NewsELA and Achieve 3000
- iv. C: Parents would like better communication from teacher to teacher, consistency among the department, and the rules for how it is graded.
- v. Q: Is there a way parents can monitor or check progress?
 - 1. Parents would have to go through their student's log in. There is no parent log on, because there are only a certain number of licenses. There is a dashboard available when students first log in.
- 4. Heart of Education Nominations: <http://theheartofeducation.org/nominate>
 - a. Heart of Education nominations are open. Administration would be very appreciative if all teachers receive a nomination.
- 5. Suggestions for future agenda items
 - a. If someone would like to add an agenda item, they could send an email to Amanda Hicks, and she will add it to the agenda for a future meeting.

Information

- 1. Next Meeting: Monday, January 13th at 5:00 p.m. with AZAC conversation pushed to the end.

Public Comment Period (2 minutes maximum allotted)

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.