

Braden River Middle School Minutes for 4/11/23

Welcome:

Welcomed by R. Batista and meeting called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Those in attendance: R. Batista, B. Sauerbier, B. Trombetta, K. Brand, J. Beach, A. Dix, Mr. Chapman, Mike Barber, K. Zenon-Richardson, A. Daugherty, C. Cooper, M. Cucci, B. Baietto, Jennifer (online).

Approval of minutes: J. Beach motioned to accept the minutes and all in favor.

Review of District Strategic Plan by Mr. Chapman

Mr. Kevin Chapman Chief of Staff and Mike Barber Director of Communications.

They like to share the boards' new strategic plan. What is important about it is that a lot of times the strategic plan doesn't get followed. This plan is well put together and makes sense.

Tomorrow is an important day and they begin to narrow down the candidates for new Superintendent and we will be hiring a new Deputy Superintendent.

Three areas of the plan include: Ready to Learn, Ready for Life, and Ready to Grow

If a child can read at that level by 4th grade they are likely to graduate. Putting all focus on the Ready to Learn. We are now working on new standards and laws, mental health etc. Ready for Life – we struggle with our graduation rate it is under 90% somewhere near 85-86% and these are the kids who couldn't read at a third grade level and so we need to fix it early and fix it fast. We do well in preparing our kids for occupational skills. Middle School is where everything happens to prepare the students for high school. Ready for Life we are struggling with the rapid growth out east and are going to try a K-8 model and parents like having their kids in one location for all those years. Incredible amount of building and growth and all the things that need to be built. The board is looking for a superintendent to keep the successes going and handle the many challenges we are up against. The voucher bill just passed and use it for private school, home school etc. We are starting to now work with principal's and their teams are needing to be marketers to keep families in their school. If we provide a great product and we think we do, then we need to keep working hard to do more to market the successes of our school. Likely that private schools will raise their tuitions and say no to some others. The politics side that is being thrown into schools by legislation is a struggle as well. We are making sure we abide by all laws

Do they ever talk of splitting the district? I was talking to the board members about what is a regional superintendent and that there is so much going on out east with growth, politics and there is not much a presence from the district out there, kind of like the wild west in a sense. Have a district office out there. Would it take some kind of legislative move to bring a district to combine. Others commented that there are opportunities to have smaller district offices for the districts that are created by the school board members and their districts.

Health care? New Health Center being built at Wakeland with Drs. and Nurses with no co-pay. No one is going to get in trouble for going to the doctor. We are self-insured and it is intuitive for us to be healthy. The idea is that you can go there and they can have all primary care needs, no co-pay and tests can be done there. One can go to a specialist in the MCR Health Network with no co-pay. We recently had about 200 employees that cost 7 million to the self insured plan. Pro-active is the key. We are working on a way to have the health center open to keep costs down. Can see insurance costs to employee going up soon as we haven't had that raise in seven years. We do not have a robust wellness program, the wellness plan gave out \$200 but we need to build on that.

By the end of May new superintendent will be found. Why do we think the teachers are hard to get hired. We need to keep the millage going? If we can get the it through the general election then we should be ok. Try to not be so specific

on the other 49% of the millage and take that specificity out and open it up to use it elsewhere. The map of the new schools was shared and there will be a new k-8 built near Bayshore.

Every year you have every age with their own issues. Does the district plan include keeping all the special programs. We do well with that and will keep it because we have pride in this. Career in a Year at MTC. Early Bird is a pilot for a dyslexia screener has now turned into picking up any challenges that the early readers have through a 45 minute screener and then prints out what is going on and remedies. The Barancik Foundation will give (25)teachers money to do something that they want to do as special learning opportunity.

We have all these skills early learning academies, robotics and programs that will foster our next generation but nothing that fosters creating “teachers”. They are putting a dual enrollment program in middle schools for creating a program for getting teachers.

Attendance policy and parent engagement is being looked at to create Parent Universities. Parent Information Center could be brought back. There is a lot of ways to engage with parents and connect them with services and food and clothes.

Principal's Report

A We want to finish strong and check schoolology and focus. For 8th grade only we are going to have an achievers' ceremony for every child that has reached promotion criteria. Tuesday the 23rd of May. If it goes well we may make it a permanent thing. It is about motivation and celebrate them.

B Same information basically. Kids need to make good decisions.

C Great accomplishments from teachers and students this last month.

SEE ATTACHED PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Review of 2023-24 By-laws A review indicates that nothing really needs to be changed at this time. R. Batista is up for re-election in September. Motion by Trombetta and seconded by Brand to accept the by-laws as they are. All in favor.

Public Comments Nothing presented at this time. A Connect-ed went out today regarding poor choices that were made at BRMS today.

Closing Comments

Thank you to some for a great school year. Our principal for fantastic reports and our admin team Mr. Baietto and Ms. Cucci. Ms. Sauerbier for minutes. Co-chair B. Trombetta thank you and all our parent members. Our student reps.

Adjourned at: Motion by Brand and Sauerbier at 7:05 p.m.

Next Meeting September 2023