Parent Superintendent Advisory Committee

January 26, 2023 | 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

● Welcome & Introductions
  ○ Meeting Attendees:
    ■ TTUSD Representatives: Superintendent Carmen Ghysels, Amber Burke
    ■ Parent Representatives: Josette Rouas (TES), Kate Gladman (GES), Stephanie Bragg (THS), Lisa Ascher (NTHS), Christine Ryan (KBE), Annie MacFadyen (DTE), Cory Allison (TLE)

● District Updates - Superintendent Carmen Ghysels
  ○ There is a small “outbreak” of COVID in the transportation department with four drivers currently out. TTUSD has closed the transportation breakroom at this time to limit large indoor gatherings within the department until this passes.
  ○ TTUSD is monitoring any changes to CA state COVID guidelines
  ○ Congratulations to our three 2023 CA Distinguished Elementary Schools - GES, DTE, and SELS. Principals from each school will attend a celebratory awards ceremony with a teacher representative and Assistant Superintendent Kerstin Kramer in February. We are very proud of all schools. We discussed the California School Dashboards (www.caschooldashboard.org), which showcases some of the criteria that are utilized to determine Distinguished Schools.
  ○ The strategic planning process continues. Student focus groups will take place in February, and a new survey will be distributed to stakeholders in February as well.
  ○ LCAP survey is still open. It closed on Friday. This is an opportunity to provide feedback as TTUSD works on the upcoming LCAP, determining how funds are utilized.
  ○ Kim Bradley is applying for a wellness grant for our district, which could be utilized for wellness centers and SEL support structures.
  ○ The district-wide spelling bee took place on Tuesday, 1/24. We had 30 students qualify, and 25 participated. Those tests were sent to PCOE to be scored, and all participants will know if they qualify for the Placer County Spelling Bee in early March. We are so
proud of all the students who participated, and each one received a $10 gift card to Word After Word bookstore as a congratulatory gift.

○ TTUSD is participating in the third cohort of a state-led initiative, the Community Engagement Initiative. The initiative is to create a learning network for districts to build peer-to-peer relationships where they can collaborate and share best practices for increasing our ability and capacity to implement effective, equitable, and culturally responsive community engagement practices. Last summer, TTUSD submitted an application to participate after recognizing a need to garner better parent involvement, specifically with our socio-economically disadvantaged students and the second-language learner community. Within the application, North Tahoe High School was chosen as the specific school site to focus on, but with the intent to share learnings and outcomes across the district. The TTUSD team began attending meetings in October and attended a 2-day conference in January. This is a multi-year initiative, and we’ll continue to keep stakeholders informed as we move through the process. The first thing we’d like to do is form a Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Committee to help guide our work. That committee will include all members of the CEI team in addition to additional members, including student representatives.

○ TTUSD reached an agreement with CSEA in negotiations with a 7% salary increase in addition to a one-time $1,500 stipend. TTUSD is still negotiating with TTEA and is currently working with a state mediator. There is one more mediated session on 2/1. After that, if no agreement is made, TTUSD and TTEA will move into a fact-finding phase. Carmen reviewed the current certificated salary schedule with committee members per their request.

● Parent Roundtable - School Updates

○ THS: A group of parents is working on how to make Friday Night Lights permanent for THS. Carmen suggested one of the committee members join the Facilities Master Plan steering committee when it’s adjourned later this year. THS is bringing in therapy dogs to boost morale during finals. THS is doing a talent show on 2/7.

○ ACMS: Has a talent show coming up soon as well.

○ NTHS: There was no back-to-school night due to multiple snow day cancellations. However, parents could connect with teachers to gather progress updates on their students. The winter formal is in a few weeks. And both NTHS and THS bands will perform in Tahoe City and Kings Beach Snowfest parades.

○ KBE: They recently had a family movie night where the movie was shown in Spanish. It was a good turnout, with about 60 people. Math Morning will take place in 2 weeks (2/10), where parents come into the school in the morning and work with kids on math activities. The PTA is also planning a family reading day in March. They are trying to organize one monthly event with a mix of day and night events. KBE is also doing a walking/reading intervention, and they have a new GATE teacher who is awesome.
○ TLE: They also recently had a family movie night. All grades have been skiing at Palisades and cross-country skiing at Tahoe XC. It’s been going well. TLE has a book fair coming up soon.

○ GES: They had a successful holiday breakfast before winter break. GES struggles with volunteer drivers and has canceled a few field trips. The PTA is trying to find some solutions. One suggestion was to see if parents of other grades could help out. They are all very excited about being recognized as a CA Distinguished School.

○ DTE: They are also very excited to be recognized as a CA Distinguished School. The kids are very proud of the accomplishment. There is a new 4th/5th-grade teacher Crystal McGuinness who has been wonderful so far. They are planning for the Nelson Nordic Challenge and had their first field trip to Tahoe XC recently. There is a lot of snow up at DTE, and TTUSD was commended on the recent snow-day calls - felt they were necessary.

○ TES: The new STEAM lab has been well received. Had a discussion about managing all-inclusive classrooms and finding the balance for the well-being of all students.

● Adjourned