



Parent Superintendent Advisory Committee

September 26, 2024 | 8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Truckee Elementary School, Community Room

Meeting Minutes

- **Welcome & Introductions | (8:45 am - 8:55 am)**

- Attendees

- TTUSD - Kerstin Kramer, Amber Burke
- Parent Reps - Stephanie Martin (DTE), Suzie Nawikas (GES), Stephany Arroyo (KBE), Christine Ryan (KBE), Cory Allison (NTS), Jessica Carr (TES), Annie MacFadyen (ACMS), Gayle Pigatto (TLE), Megan Evans (THS)
- Students Reps - Mishel Suarez Hernandez (NTHS), Zach Harris (THS), Naomi Adams (THS)

- **Conocimiento (SEL Activity) | (8:55 am - 9:10 am)**

- Originating from Dr. Roberto Vargas's Community Learning Theory, Conocimiento is a self-reflection activity that allows participants to share and reflect on their knowledge and experiences during meeting openings. The Conocimiento Principle emphasizes the necessity of consciously creating community within the group to heighten the potential for personal growth and shared action. Increased bonding and trust in the group can lead to deeper sharing, greater insights, increased commitment to action, and the inspiration of feeling that you are greater than one person – you are part of a community.
- Arthur Aron's 36 Questions
 - What was your favorite subject in school?
 - What is your favorite dessert or flavor of ice cream?
 - What is/was your favorite pet? (If you've never had a pet, what pet would you choose if you could?)
 - What's your favorite thing to do during summer?
 - What is your favorite TV show or movie?

- **District Updates - Superintendent Kerstin Kramer | (9:10 am - 9:20 am)**

- Tough to have Attendance month in September - alot of colds, so you want to keep your kids home, but then you're also being pushed to get your kid to school
- The missed 3x letter is stressful
- School Safety Education Nights - Topic Feedback
 - Expected parent behavior
 - How do we talk to our children about this in an age-appropriate way
 - How to talk to the school about it and how the school is communicating with parents - strategy of sharing vs. not sharing information
 - Substitute teachers to get training on safety procedures
 - Lockdown doesn't always mean something is happening, it can be a measure of safety
 - Question: THS hasn't done training since Freshman year

- They have been doing the training during SS, and not everyone goes to that class, or some teachers don't do what they're supposed to. Need a time of day when more students are on campus or do it schoolwide.
 - Record nights for viewing after.
- [What is Community Engagement?](#) - Amber Burke | (9:20 am - 9:30 am)
 - They feel the shift of involvement vs. engagement. Saw it in TES back to school night and the Strategic Plan task force.
- **Back to School Night Update & Feedback | (9:30 am - 10:00 am)**
 - TES Student Voice
 - TES - Student feedback
 - A 5th-grade teacher set up a scavenger hunt in which students showed their parents what they were working on, the different areas of the room, and how they were utilized.
 - They had a potluck with different foods - food is uniting. The students also created art projects in advance, and the parents had to guess whose was whose.
 - Intentional about bringing kids to the event.
 - Feedback - think it's so helpful, don't have to worry about childcare and kids are proud to show you what they're working on.
 - Liked that it was really early in the year, it was nice to meet your child's teacher as soon as possible.
 - Split the grades so families with multiple kids could see each class.
 - Felt like you could go in and out if you needed it.
 - GES
 - Hard to do the event without childcare.
 - DTE
 - Invite everyone and have dinner together. Then kids go play and parents go to the classrooms.
 - Nice for parents to all eat together.
 - THS
 - Students—They didn't go, but both parents went, and all teachers had them write down one thing that's important for the teacher to know about the student.
 - Student - mom went and hadn't gone in years. Felt a lot different this year. Leadership was selling merch and food - liked them. Things for the parents rather than only things for them to do. Felt more welcome.
 - Student - senior parent night is really helpful. Could we do a jr. parent night - college apps, etc. Things you need to know that year. The college night last year was too late (end of jr. year) - would be better at the end of sophomore year or beginning of junior year.
 - As a parent with 2 in high school - if you don't have a secondary parent, it's hard to do it all. You have to pick one of the students. Like the set up but it's a little tricky. Was cool to have community partners (NARCAN, clubs, etc.). Felt the night was really informative.
 - The big presentation is only for freshman parents - would like the option to go see the presentation no matter what age your student is. Good to hear that info as a refresher. Opt-in option.
 - NTHS
 - Didn't like it, didn't feel like they came away with enough information or time to talk to the teacher
 - GES
 - More involvement vs. engagement this year.

- Did the fingerprinting - really liked having it there. Would like an option to come early or stay late to do it so you don't miss your teacher's presentation.
 - Could they set up dates at each school at the beginning of the year to be there during drop off? Or school events, example Eagle Walk
 - Think some of the teacher presentations could be shorter so there is more time to talk to the teacher. Don't repeat what Rachael just reviewed.
- KBE
 - Big presentation with principal at beginning of the night, then a little social time, then go into classrooms for the presentations
 - Stagger teacher presentations so parents with multiple kids can see both
 - Great opportunity for parents to meet teachers but also for parents to meet parents. Build community.
 - Advocate for free time - liked the combo of the two at KBE.
- **Committee Roundtable - School Updates | (10:00 am - 10:15 am)**
 - What are helpful roundtable updates? Share one that you think other schools would benefit from hearing.
 - Leave this where it is, but put the student feedback earlier so we don't miss it if they have to leave.
 - Ex in Ed fundraiser is going well. A few more days to donate.
- **Feedback Survey (let us know topics you'd like to cover this year!)**
 - Going back to 8:30am - 10am might be better
 - Amber to send the survey link to everyone



- **Adjourned**

TTUSD Meeting Norms

- Listen fully & reflectively
- Practice forming new habits of mind
- Hold experiences & revelations of others with care
- Challenge the limits of your potential
- Monitor your personal technology
- Be responsible for your impact on the room
- Have Fun!