

Ulis Newton Elementary
School Organizational Team Minutes
February 7, 2018
3:45 PM

The Ulis Newton School Organizational Team meeting was called to order at 3:46pm on 02/07/18. The meeting was held in the library.

Members Present:

Jorie DiCamillo, Principal
Nathan Harper, Chair
Robin Anderson, Vice-Chair
Hope Ficarro, Member
Stefani Glines, Member
Melanie Grady, Member
Cindy Benavidez, Member
Alice Bellini, Member
Danielle Walters, Member

Members Absent:

None

1 Welcome and Roll Call

- 1.1 The minutes from the meeting dated 01/17/2018 were presented and approved. Ms. Ficarro made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Benavidez seconded it.

2 Old Agenda Items

- 2.1 We reviewed the update on the transfer of responsibilities from CCSD. Assembly Bill 468, Section 18, of the 2017 Nevada Legislature Session requires that the Clark County School District (CCSD) allocate 85 percent of unrestricted funds to school strategic budgets for the 2018-2019 school year. The funds to be transferred to school budgets are for services provided directly to schools; other related funds will remain centrally allocated. The transfer of responsibilities will be a continuing work in progress as CCSD works with each school throughout this next year to receive feedback on performance, cost of services, and satisfaction with the process.
- 2.2 2017-18 Strategic Budget Update; our school is one of the few schools that received a clean audit!

3 New Items

- 3.1 We discussed the possibilities for the 2018-19 strategic budget. Ms. DiCamillo gave us a few options on how to allocate the funds for the coming school year. We reviewed the options and had an in-depth discussion about which grade-level would benefit most from having an additional teacher. As a result of being a 2-star school we are mandated to have smaller class sizes and only allowed to have 16-17 students in 1st and 2nd grades; however there is no limit on class size for the 4th and 5th grades. We discussed the pros and cons of combining a 4th and 5th grade class or even a split 1st/2nd grade class. After several concerns were discussed, we decided that a split class could possibly create more problems than it would solve. If students

join Newton mid-year than we would be required to hire another teacher so that we don't go over our teacher/pupil ratio that is mandated by CCSD for the K-3 classes. As a result, we discussed current enrollment and debated which grade level might have the most growth. Essentially we were trying to see into the future so that we know which grade level will need an additional teacher. But, in reality there is no way for us to know where our needs will be until after the first week of school. As a result, we came to the conclusion that we will be adding positions to K- 4th grade and Ms. DiCamillo will review 5th grade enrollment. Ms. Ficarro made a motion to approve the decision and as a team we unanimously agreed on the decision.

We reviewed the budget and staffing survey that Ms. DiCamillo gave to the staff members. Most of the questions were regarding which staffing positions were of most value. We were able to review the data and discuss which support staffing positions would need to be renewed for next school year. As a team we decided that we could afford to fund the school aide position for an additional ½ hour. We unanimously approved this decision.

- 3.2 As a team we reviewed the 2018-19 School Performance Plan. We discussed the changes on page 3, and reviewed the statistics on each grade level and where there needs to be improvement in scores. We discussed how important this data is to help us know how we can improve. We reviewed page 5, and reviewed the objectives and discussed that the assessment data is pending. On page 8 we reviewed goal #2 that involves decreasing the achievement gap between the highest performing and ethnic/racial subgroups in both reading and math. As part of the school performance plan the school will create vertical alignment in their math curriculum, as well as a staff improvement class with a CCSD employee regarding equity and diversity in the classroom.

4 Information

- 4.1 It is likely that we will qualify to be a Title 1 school for the 2018-2019 school year. The statistics are based on food service, and we will know by April 1st if we qualify. Being a Title 1 school will help us by giving us approximately \$30,000 more to help our students and possibly increase our GATE or TAGS program.
- 4.2 Ms. DiCamillo agreed that she would have a separate meeting for parents to discuss the strategic budget update and the school performance plan. The meeting time and place would be sent out via email.
- 4.3 The Clark County School District is providing video training for Policy and Regulation 4100 which outlines acceptable communication between students, employees and coaches (including volunteers) in CCSD's effort to protect students and employees.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:24 pm