

K Y R E N E

Parent Superintendent Council Agenda Summary

May 12, 2009 | 11:30-1:30 am | Centennial Middle School

Topic	Summary
Introductions and District Information	Dr. Schauer stated this would be the last meeting of the Parent Superintendent Council for this year. He thanked the group for communicating with others. He then introduced Kelvin Inouye, principal of Kyrene de la Colina School. Mr. Inouye stated Kathy Miller agreed to host today's meeting at Centennial Middle School. Mr. Inouye also offered a tour of his school after the meeting. Dr. Schauer introduced Board members, Ross Robb and Michelle Hirsch. He requested that attendees complete a survey after the meeting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Information 	<p>Karin Smith stated she has received no new budget information since the last Parent Superintendent Council meeting. She stated 2 budget forums were held last Wednesday evening and yesterday afternoon and that they were well attended. Information was shared with the community on how schools are funded, how Kyrene uses its funds, challenges ahead and how we are planning for those challenges. She stated once we know the information from the State, we can implement the budget and bring to the Governing Board for approval. One member of the Parent-Superintendent Council attended one of the forums and stated the meeting went well. Questions were received and those will be posted to the Kyrene website with responses. Ms. Smith stated we probably won't have a decision by the State until the end of June.</p> <p>A question was posed regarding the K-3 override monies and if they can only be used for class sizes. Ms. Smith responded the monies can be used for class size reduction and academic intervention services. On June 30 a report on cash reserves is sent to the County with information on unspent dollars as of June 30. Those would be carryover monies for next year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swine Flu 	Patty Weegar indicated that Kyrene follows the direction of the Maricopa County Health Department regarding the H1N1 virus and all communicable diseases. The Kyrene Crisis Team prepares for potential closure of schools. The H1N1 virus was identified in Maricopa County on or about 4-28-09. Three Arizona schools were closed when each had a student identified with the virus. Students recovered quickly after typical flu experiences. The Maricopa County Health Department re-evaluated the situation on 5-4-09 and decided not to close schools after finding a positive identification. The Kyrene Crisis Team convened and reviewed current information and plans for school closure. In the event of a school closure by the Maricopa Health Department, the Crisis Team communicates to

Topic	Summary
	<p>affected school families by phone dialer system, dispatches AM buses for morning run to gather any students, deploys District staff to school to talk to parents and/or to attend to students who arrive on the buses, facilitates food services to school for those who may need it, coordinates external and internal communications to the community and staff and directs the cleaning of the school prior to re-opening.</p> <p>Staff and students are given frequent reminders about prevention techniques to stay healthy including covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue into the trash after you use it and wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, as germs are spread that way. Stay home from work or school if you or your children get sick and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them. School Health Offices are monitored by Regional nurses.</p> <p>Melissa Dardis, head nurse for Kyrene, was also present. She stated hand washing is the preferable method for hand cleaning. She stated if soap and water is not available, hand sanitizers also work well.</p> <p>Another attendee asked why there have been so many deaths from this flu. Mrs. Dardis stated it may have mutated and that there are many places in Mexico without running water. She stated others may not seek medical attention. Mrs. Dardis stated there were 106 cases of the flu in Maricopa County. She stated she is monitoring the numbers.</p> <p>One attendee asked how we will know when the flu is over. Mrs. Dardis stated district offices will see a decline in ill students. She stated respiratory illnesses are being monitored. The media will continue to provide information on the flu.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle School Study Report 	<p>Dr. Schauer stated that the Middle School Study Report and Dr. David Garcia’s presentation is located on the Kyrene website.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat Advisory Protocol 	<p>Dr. Taylor stated that the Kyrene School District is committed to protecting the health and safety of our students and staff. Kyrene provides various opportunities for outdoor physical activities before, during and after school. The guidelines are meant to provide a decision making structure to promote student and staff safety when local weather may be detrimental to their health. The guidelines are also intended to provide preventive strategies that may limit or revise certain activities for physical education and other outdoor programs before, during, or after school. She stated children do not adapt to extremes of temperature as effectively as adults. When excessive heat occurs, the following precautions are to be taken for all outdoor physical activity, including, but not limited to recess, physical education classes and field trips. Students should be hydrated before going outside and have access to drinking water while outside. In activities lasting longer than 30 minutes, periodic water breaks should be</p>

Topic	Summary
	<p>incorporated.</p> <p>During the school year on days that exceed 95 degrees, the district designee will inform the schools of the Heat Advisory. The determination will be made according to the temperature and humidity as predicted by weather.com. Once the Heat Advisory is communicated, a school designee will inform all school staff and the suggested guidelines will be put into place. As the “felt temperature” increases, outdoor activity time will be adjusted, beginning with a limit of 15 minutes for outdoor recess for “felt temperatures” over 100 degrees, and a limit of 10 minutes when the “felt temperature” reaches 105 degrees. If the “felt temperature” at noon is predicted to be greater than 110 degrees, schools will limit recess with a “sunny day” schedule, similar to that used on rainy days.</p> <p>One parent stated that her child was soaking wet after exiting the bus, and the bus driver may not have used air conditioning. Mr. Tatterfield stated he would check into the matter.</p> <p>Another parent asked if this information has been provided to the after-school programs. Mrs. Alexander stated it has.</p> <p>Mrs. Weegar stated others that may rent space from us will have their own rules.</p>
Colina Construction Update	<p>Kelvin Inouye stated all existing portable classrooms will be taken down this summer and all new classrooms will be under one roof. Construction at his school began in October of 2008 and once it started, it progressed quickly. The intermediate wing will house 9 classrooms which include a computer lab. Another of those rooms will be used for storage. The kindergarten wing has 4 classrooms.</p>
<p>Hot Topics</p> <p>K-8 Committee and the Program Review Plan for 2009-2010</p>	<p>Dr. Taylor stated this is an ongoing committee. She introduced Terry Tatterfield, Co-Facilitator, Anna Montalbo, Michelle Hirsch (honorary member), Patricia Weegar, Kelly Alexander and Dr. Schauer as members. She stated this group is committed to the future of the district, and that it is a pleasure working with them. Membership includes 2 principals, 2 district department personnel, 5 parents, 5 teachers, 2 support staff. Co-chairs include the Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services and Assistant Superintendent for Support Services. Ad hoc members participate as needed.</p> <p>Tom Seiger stated that reallocation of existing resources must be effective, efficient, responsive and meet academic achievement goals.</p> <p>The process includes involvement with a lead administrator and representatives. Research needs to be done related to program area. There will be analysis of strengths and weaknesses. Recommendations will be developed. The K-8 Programming Study Committee will review and the Superintendent will determine next steps.</p>

Topic	Summary
	<p>Dr. Taylor stated Human Resources, Ms. Weegar, and Data Processing are involved in the staffing process. The group looks at how to best allocate staff to the needs of students. She stated the Staffing Committee has been meeting all year and have asked for feedback.</p> <p>Anna Montalbo stated with regard to Structured English Immersion (SEI) the ADE has new requirements but the dollars provided for it went away. She stated the information was reviewed on how this could be implemented in the 09-10 school year.</p> <p>Dr. Taylor stated that kindergarten was studied. Teachers and parents looked at full day kindergarten. During the study it was determined that this was not fiscally sound and was not bringing in resources. Budget implications were reviewed and it was agreed the program would run without instructional assistants except for recess and lunch.</p> <p>Dr. Seiger stated Title I in the past provided support for 6 schools. Federal funding for Title I has been reduced. The Study Team looked at which schools would receive support. The decision was based on schools that have 35% or more on Free and Reduced lunch. Four schools are now receiving funding.</p> <p>Mr. Tatterfield stated that we pay out \$4M to \$5M in utilities per year. Through the Strategic Plan and K-8 Study, we have made improvements, finding different ways to be efficient. He stated air conditioning equipment is being maintained. Rates always increase even if there is a reduction in kilowatt usage. He stated Kyrene is spending less on utilities than some other districts and our Facilities Department was recently recognized by AASBO for energy efficiency.</p> <p>Mrs. Hirsch stated that temperatures vary in classrooms and with the new systems, they will be easier to regulate.</p> <p>Ms. Weegar stated with regard to the school office and administrative model, the Strategic Plan was reviewed and we looked at other districts to see what they were doing. We began using a Student Advisor Model. Student Advisors have the same duties of assistant principals, only their contract is less. Every elementary school needs an Assistant Principal or Student Advisor. This year there are 7 full time assistant principals and 12 half time assistant principals. Next year there will be 12 full time assistant principals/student advisors and 7 half time assistant principals/student advisors. Office staff was discussed. Resources were reconfigured and this model will be evaluated in the fall.</p> <p>A parent asked how many students would warrant an assistant principal and was informed 750 students. She stated Kyrene's numbers are below other east valley school districts. Chandler's limit is 800 students, and Gilbert's is 900 students.</p>

Topic	Summary
Programs for Study, 2009-10	<p>Programs for Study in 2009-10 include responding to demographic trends, innovative programs, six-day rotation for elementary schools and Gifted Program services.</p> <p>Ms. Weegar stated with regard to innovative programs, a team of people will start a development process of examining research to see what student and family interests might be.</p> <p>Anna Montalbo stated a group will work together to study the idea of Six-Day Rotation for elementary schools. She stated this idea came up in 2005 on how art and music and physical education are delivered. She stated the Study Team found it effective but not responsive.</p> <p>Dr. Taylor stated it was not uncommon to have a six-day rotation.</p> <p>Regarding the Gifted Program, the group will look at what could we do better and whether there are things that have not been thought of in this area.</p> <p>The PTO rep from KMS stated we need to work on keeping families in Kyrene School District.</p> <p>Mr. Robb stated the Governing Board is aware there is a level where cutting costs and programs will have an affect on enrollment.</p> <p>A parent stated that teaching kids in 4th and 5th grade to be accelerated in the middle schools maybe could draw more kids from the charter schools.</p> <p>Dr. Schauer stated he met with Steve Adolph, Superintendent of Tempe Union High School District, and the Parent Network Group. He stated keeping kids out needs to be looked at. He stated students are willing to do extra work. He stated there is a tendency to discourage aspiring students to improve. He stated sometimes those students are shut out. He also stated regarding innovative programs, monies are available in Washington D. C. and there are resources we can use. He stated there is educational reform in this country and there are opportunities ahead. He stated 30 people have expressed interested in serving on the Innovative Programs Committee.</p> <p>Dr. Schauer also stated he was grateful for his team and thanked Mark Knight for trying to replace displaced teachers and Riffed teachers with compassion and respect.</p>

Minutes taken by Mary Ott