

Kenai Middle School Site Council

05/08/19

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Wendy Gruber, Michelle Graves, Christie Holmes, Ken Felchle, Jen Satathite, Vaughn Dosko

Approve Minutes: Chris motioned to approve. Wendy 2nd the motion.
Old Business

Spring Open House/Visitation: The open house was well attended, mostly by the incoming 6th grade parents. The open house is a great way to put the new families at ease. They meet the teachers, checkout the classrooms and get a feel for the school.

Peaks testing: There is a rise in the number of parents that opt their students out from testing. It is usually the top students that don't end up taking the test. Their parents don't see the merit. However, these testing results do help the schools. Taking these tests is also good practice for the students that will be taking SAT and the ACT later. The teachers and volunteers have their annual Pancake Breakfast on the first day of testing. This is a memorable and loved tradition for all KMS students.

Staffing update: Tammy Vollum-Matturro was offered a tenure contract to continue on as the Choir Director for Kenai Middle. She is a great addition to our school and we are so happy to have her return. Ms Updike has taken a position at Redoubt Elementary, so Mr Dosko is in the process of hiring a new 8th grade Special Ed teacher. Mrs. Miranda is resigning and moving to Washington to be closer to family. The borough is not moving forward on filling these position yet, they are waiting on possible transfers. Mr Dosko has been working on adding a new program to Kenai Middle School; An intensive needs program. In the past all the intensive needs students from Mountain View were bused to Skyview or Nikiski. These are Kenai students that have created friendships with their fellow classmates and he felt that keeping them within our school system was a benefit to all. There will be 6-12 students in this program. There will be classroom shuffling and reorganization. They will need to hire new special ed teachers, and the numbers will hopefully help with our numbers and increase of support staff numbers.

New Business:

1) 6th Grade Camp: 6th grade camp is on May 13,14,15. This is an annual camp that all 6th grade students go to at Victory Bible Camp. It has been a tradition for many years. They go on hikes, glacier walks, they have science and first aid stations, and of course, most important, is the Capture the Flag competitions. It is a very memorable experiences for the Middle school students.

2) 8th Grade Farewell: The 8th grade farewell is on Friday, May 17th. It is an assembly that starts at 8am. It gives the 8th graders a time of closure and recognition. They will have their traditional guest speaker of Mr. Summer along with 2 student speakers. Mrs. Graves will be the 8th grade Site Council representative on stage. Following the assembly there is cake served to all family and “graduates”, and a slide show.

3) Mini Courses: The students are all signed up for mini courses, and buses have been scheduled. Mini courses are another Kenai middle school tradition. We are the only school in the area that does this event. There are many activities: H2Oasis, Get Air, Camping trips, hiking, golfing, frisbee, fishing, horseback riding, crafts, swimming, rock climbing, and more. The teachers team up and head these activities. Some of the events are 2 day and some are 1 day. It is a huge undertaking to get this organized, but all staff will admit that it's worth it.

4) Award Assembly & BBQ: The assembly and BBQ take place on the last day of school. May 23rd. It usually starts at 8:30am. They are talking about starting it earlier, and shortening it if possible. During the assembly spring athletes are acknowledged, the choir sings, band performs, PE awards are given, academic awards, and student of the year awards. Parents are encouraged to attend. Following the assembly volunteers will serve a bbq lunch to all students and then they have a carnival style afternoon for the students.

5) Middle School Math meet: Some of our Mathletes will be heading to Homer for the Middle school Math meet on Thursday May 9th. Good Luck. Go KMS.

6)Track Boroughs: Middle school boroughs started on Tuesday, May 7th. All the athletes that qualified for boroughs went to Homer to participate in jumping finals and running prelims. KMS walked away with many ribbons, including a 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in Boys High jump. Way to go KMS. Those athletes that qualified for finals will be traveling back to Homer for the Borough finals on Saturday, May 11th. This meet will be in combination with the High school borough meet. It is a great opportunity for the middle school students to see the next level of track participation and be cheered on by the older athletes.

KCHS site council meeting: On Tuesday May 14th KCHS will be having their last site council meeting of the year. During this meeting district personnel will be present to get input regarding the Principal position that has opened at Kenai Central. This meeting is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Next meeting TBA in fall of 2019