

BEN FRANKLIN SAC COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES JANUARY 2012

Members Present: Kent Barwind, Ann Citrin, Glenn Roper, Jennifer Guetierrez-Hughes, Laura Goldin, Amy Taylor, Robin Mendelson

- Franceen Thompson, from the Douglas County School District Accountability Committee, attended the January SAC committee. Since we are a new charter school, she offered any support we might need and said she's available by email for any questions at franceen@thompson.cc

She described the process for developing SAC goals and satisfaction surveys at traditional Douglas County schools (not charters). First there's a preliminary voting of the UIP based on CSAP scores, then teacher input is gathered and finally the information is merged together and finalized by the principal. Lastly, the SAC committee votes on the survey and it's distributed to families for their input.

- The SAC committee voted on the Vice Chairman position between Glenn Roper and Amy Taylor, but the vote was evenly split. Since SAC board member Chris Eubanks wasn't in attendance to offer the tie-breaker, the decision won't be made until the next meeting.

Robin Mendelson offered to assist in the Recorder position.

- The SAC Survey is fairly complete and will be emailed to parents. The school website is all set up to take the incoming data. The SAC committee reviewed the entire survey and made the following suggestions to the questions.
 - The question about curriculum, questions 17/18 regarding books and choices: if the answer is no, then what are your choices? Should there be several open-ended choices?
 - Demographic questions, should this be addressed and what if there's multiple children in a family?
 - Price of extra-curricular activity fees, capture amount parents are willing to pay and offer increments. Are 50 dollar increments appropriate?
 - Some communication questions are being addressed through other channels, such as directly through emails to the principal and the separate Parent Survey under development.

- Curriculum questions regarding student, “my child is academically challenged by the curriculum”...is it being implemented effectively?

- SAC Goals and Committee – The goals for the year are a combination of both broad areas and specific content.

- Student survey – The possibility of a student survey, to be distributed at the end of the year, is still being considered.

- Teacher survey – Kim and Molly, from the Board of Director’s specially created Parent Committee, are developing a Parent Feedback survey that will be distributed to families next month. The survey will more specifically address teacher performance. It was clarified that the criteria for a teacher’s contract for the following school year at BFA won’t be solely determined by the results of the survey.

The survey will address a section on the teacher’s ability, whether they communicate and have made appropriate comments, and how they’ve addressed the core knowledge curriculum.

- In closing, Franceen Thompson from the DCSD SAC, added that the dialogue she witnessed at our meeting was very productive and is beneficial to the school.

- The minutes from the December meeting were approved, pending the addition of “Glenn Roper” to the vice chair nominations.