

October CSC meeting on 10/21/24

Present - Robert Rosenthal, Spooner, Mansfield, Smith, Athena Alva, Elsa D'Angelo, Isaac Loera, Renteria, Margarita Barajas, Eliza De La Rosa

Andrea's update -

Staffing

- Currently looking for a .5 SPED teacher,
- Four paraprofessionals for MIA (autism) classrooms. 3 of the para positions have been open for the whole year.
- Upper Montessori literacy position - .5

Recruitment / Marketing

- Want everyone to spend some time looking at the GPA website and provide feedback based on the lens of a parent who is looking at a potential candidate.

Shout Outs

- Pictures
- Values leaves - bilingual explanations
- Drop downs - make it seem really robust
- Colorful
- Lots of information

Area for improvements

- Pictures without masks
- Under photos and project tab needs to be updated
- Uniform and Bells schedule can be updated
- Are Friday Folders still being used
- Title pages for programs, but no info or pictures
- Making sure that we are letting people know about TINLI and MIA
- Dates vs calendars
- How can we make both desktop and phone friendly
- Could the video from the enrollment tab be moved to the front
- Parent handbook? There is one, but it is outdated.
- Information about the new communication system - school status connect - connection, a how to, and a QR code.
- If we make an announcement from School Status Connect, can it be updated to our school website so that families can find one place.
- Parent reviews or testimonies - or

a button where parents could submit one

- Student testimony - cute videos of kids talking about their experience
- Some of the things we are most proud of, aren't included - teacher retention, teacher experience
- **Choose your own adventure - web quest** - Montessori or Traditional / English or Spanish / MIA program / ECE
- Marketing the STEM research and garden as well.

Fall Festival - Do we need to get any information from families or feedback from them? Parent reviews? Kid feedback? Try to get google reviews.
Wednesday, October 30 from 5:00 - 7:30

We are going to have a CSC table to try and get feedback from other families.

Addressing declining enrollment

DPS is planning on closing schools based on small schools, enrollment numbers, location, projections for the next couple of years, and our school falls in the regional range. The district is losing a lot of money keeping open small neighborhood schools that they could use to run some bigger schools. They may close 5 - 10 schools. We are not anticipating that we will close due to the programming that we offer that isn't available at other schools. They will make decisions in the middle of November.

If other neighborhood schools close down, we should be ready to try and recruit as many of those kids to our school as possible.

Questions (after Renteria left):

- Will DPS direct students to neighboring schools or will parents all have free choice? Will they have a "neighborhood" school assigned to them?

- What are our current numbers? With the Montessori / MIA / ECE / TINLI we
- If another school closes around us, what is our maximum number of students that we can take on? Adam says that our school's enrollment has been as high as 500.

Other Marketing ideas -

- Marketing GPA to outside businesses / apartments / housing to recruit and get the word out about our school and the opportunities that we have.
- Make connections with the Hippie program / PAT (0-3 year olds) to try to connect with home based programs to recruit.
- Marketing the garden and the STEM

Next meeting - 4:00 - 5:00, November 11th, 2024