Backman Elementary Meeting Template

Meeting: SCC

Date: Sept 28, 2021

 In Attendance: Heather Newell, Shannon Wilson, Ines Lazalde, Bryce Williams, Diana Bell, Gabby Elers (parent of Kindergarten student), Karina Lugo Villalba Start Time: 6:00 End Time: 6:21

Purpose: To discuss how we can best support families

To Prepare/Materials:

Agenda:

Welcome Back:

Facilitator: Heather Newell

Notetaker: Shannon Wilson

Moderator & Time Keeper:

Introductions

• New information for 2021-22 school year:

Off to a good start. Our students and staff are settling in and connecting well. Kindergarten and 1^{st} grade students are struggling because they generally only remember the pandemic, so social skills are developing more slowly than in a typical year.

Our teachers are all doing LETRS to learn the science behind reading. The state is providing this training. Not a reading program, but strategies and skills to help students learn to read more systematically. Our students are struggling to read so this is very timely and appropriate after the pandemic.

We do have a few COVID cases, but appreciate the mask mandate by the SLC mayor. We are keeping our unvaccinated students safe.

New assistant principal, Shannon Wilson. The consistency from year to year is helping us be successful, especially because we haven't needed to hire new teachers this year. Kindergarten, 1^{st} and 2^{nd} teachers have moved around grade levels, but 3^{rd} - 6^{th} grade teams are exactly the same.

8-years ago, the Bridge to Backman was conceived, and it started construction on Monday!!! It should be done within 8 months! November is the install date. The end of February is phase one, and end of April is phase 2. Working on an outdoor classroom to go with it. So exciting about the Bridge being a tool to improve attendance and recognize that our community deserves the beautiful resources that other schools deserve.

Discussion Skills:

- Engage constructively with alternative perspectives
- Think critically
- Grapple with multiple perspectives
- Build stamina for engaging with new and challenging Ideas
- Engage with research
- Raise critical questions
- Tolerate ambiguity
- Recognize the power relations embedded in positionality
- Value collaboration over competition

Silence Breakers:

- I'm nervous to say X, but...
- Given the reality of inequitable power, would it be better if...
- Is X a good example of Y?
- Can you help me understand whether what I'm thinking right now might be problematic?
- I just felt a shift in the room. I'm wondering if anyone else did...
- This perspective is new to me, but I'm wondering if it is accurate to sav...
- I'm having a "yeah but" moment. Can you help me work through it?

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We are also focused on Place-Based Learning experiences for students. Shifting our thinking to curriculum based on the world around us. Planning prior, experiencing the world, and following up with the core content that children are learning.

4th grade – Great Salt Lake

6th grade – Wasatch Mountain Institute

2nd grade – Zoo

Connecting science, literacy, and social studies in an integrated way based on the world around us. Developing partners to make learning come alive.

HB 58 Vaping-Ines Lazalde

HB 58 is to provide support for students in staying away from drugs and alcohol, particularly vaping. The best strategies are getting students involved in the community and developing problem solving skills.

Our plan is to:

- Provide instruction from the Second Step Curriculum (K-6)
- Restorative practices with re-teaching of skills to build relationships
- Conduct a parent seminar to support parents in engaging with their students
- Teaching inner explorer and mindfulness to manage the moment of decision making when times are challenging
- Starting to run after school clubs to build more connections with community
- Adapt is an additional Tier 2 program for students who might already be experiencing drug use in their world
- Questions, concerns, feedback

Parent likes the school and things are going fine. No further questions.

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Action Steps:					