

Meeting Minutes

Morris Brandon ES

Date: 11/12/20

Time: 3:00pm

Location: Video conference via Zoom

- I. Call to order: 3:00pm
- II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Jay Bland	Present
Parent/Guardian	Fran Egan	Present
Parent/Guardian	Patterson Calhoun	Present
Parent/Guardian	Claudia Fotzeu	Present
Instructional Staff	Sam DeCarlo	Absent
Instructional Staff	Maggie Blease	Present
Instructional Staff	Rachel Davis	Present
Community Member	Anna Fiveash	Present
Community Member	Peyton Johnston	Present
Swing Seat	Tamila Jackson Whitaker	Present

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

a. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to adopt made by: Fotzeu Seconded by: Davis

Members Approving: All

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

b. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Motion to adopt made by: Fotzeu Seconded by: Davis

Members Approving: All

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

IV. Discussion Items

a. Review Mission and Vision

District Mission & Vision (updates **highlighted**): With a caring culture of **equity**, trust and collaboration, every student will graduate ready for college, career **and life**. A high-performing school district where students love to learn, educators inspire, families engage and the community trusts the system.

Cluster Mission & Vision: To implement IB with depth and fidelity for all students in order to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who will graduate ready for college and career. A high performing cluster where students, educators and families work together to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Morris Brandon Mission & Vision: To develop students' academic, social, and emotional needs by engaging our entire school community to work collaboratively while fostering international-mindedness and a love for learning. To educate the whole child by teaching empathy, open-mindedness, compassion, and critical thinking while giving every student what they need to be successful lifelong learners.

- a. Regarding the District statement: Equity is at the forefront of APS. We recently hired an Equity Officer to support the Superintendent. At MB this will manifest itself through budgeting to strive for equitable funding. This initiative started before the Pandemic and focus has understandably shifted there in the short term. The addition for "and life" that is new in the statement recognizes that students are on many different life paths and all may not include college and career as an immediate next step.
- b. Regarding the Morris Brandon statement: this entire statement has been updated during the last year. A lot of effort was undertaken by Sam DeCarlo to survey the entire staff and school team and pull out terminology to reflect our school and our focus on the whole child. The last sentence is important and drives home equity with the focus on giving **every** student what they need. This will guide us.

V. Principal's Update

a. Reopening Update

- a. The current virtual schooling is in place at least until the third nine weeks begins on January 18
- b. The District hasn't yet shared dates for a final opening decision based on health numbers and other factors. The GO Team expressed concern about the lack of clear dates and communication about the return to in-person schooling.
- c. Per the APS Superintendent blog updates, the health metric (100 cases per 100k) is still the metric they are using to make opening decisions; the

- GO Team reminds our community to wear masks and mitigate risks so that we have the best opportunity to return to face-to-face instruction.
- d. The “intent to return” surveys will re-open next week for families to declare if they plan to return to face-to-face instruction. Morris Brandon will be able to serve all the students that plan to return. We are addressing the highest need students with the intervention programs (outlined below) and will be able to welcome all the students that would like to return once reopening is approved by APS.
 - b. **MBES intervention overview for wellness/academic/engagement**
 - a. Site based interventions will begin next week and are targeted to those students that most need support and aren’t as successful with virtual learning based on three categories:
 - a. Academics – in danger of failing and/or not turning in assignments
 - b. Engagement – those with low overall engagement on Zoom
 - c. Wellness – to address those with SEL, Counseling and behavioral needs
 - b. The interventions will serve the highest need students and will occur 2 days per week (Tu/Th from 1-2:30pm). This will be in addition to regular instruction and will utilize para-professionals and teaching teams to ensure virtual learning maintains the rigor and schedule the students and families expect.
 - a. The students being served in this highest need targeted group include Special Education, ESOL, Intervention Students, those receiving counseling services, and IEPs (except for Speech which can be successfully managed virtually)
 - b. Kindergartners will also be serviced in this group. They have the lowest engagement rate of our elementary students by grade level and need in-person assessments for things like handwriting and phonics that are difficult to accomplish virtually
 - c. Transportation and snacks will be provided for those students that need it
 - d. Intervention plans have been developed and approved at the school level, so the service model may vary by school
 - e. Safety protocols will be robust:
 - a. Capacity will be capped at 7 students per classroom
 - b. All students will be spaced 6 feet apart
 - c. MB will utilize both campus building to maximize available space
 - d. All students and staff will wear masks and there is ample hand sanitizer
 - c. **School enrollment has remained steady in the range of 840-850 students; we have not seen any big changes during the school year and continue to receive newly enrolled students**

VI. Announcements

- a. There is a Prospective Parent Coffee Talk Zoom on November 17 at 10am. Please find details on the Morris Brandon website.
- b. Asynchronous learning Wednesdays will begin in December to allow teachers time to prepare their classrooms for a hopeful return to face-to-face instruction.
 - i. During that time, Morris Brandon plans to have a morning meeting on Wednesdays as class groups for about 30 minutes to outline the day and address SEL before the students begin asynchronous work
 - ii. Some Specials teachers are hoping to offer “clubs” as enrichment for interested students on Wednesdays, with more information to come
 - iii.

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Johnston](#)

Seconded by: [Fotzeu](#)

Members Approving: all

Members Opposing: none

Members Abstaining: none

Motion Passes

ADJOURNED AT 4:10pm

Minutes Taken By: [Fran Egan](#)

Position: [GO Team Secretary](#)

Date Approved: [\[Insert Date When Approved\]](#)