

Meeting Minutes

Morris Brandon ES

Date: 10/15/20

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: Davis Seconded by: Fotzeu

Members Approving: All

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

b. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Motion to adopt made by: Johnston Seconded by: Fotzeu

Members Approving: All

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

- c. **Set GO Team Meeting Calendar for remainder of 2020-2021 – we will meet for 90 minutes in the afternoons on Zoom on the dates below:**
- i. Nov 12 at 3pm
 - ii. Dec 10 at 3pm; Public Comment
 - iii. Jan 28 at 3pm (tentatively initial budget presentation)
 - iv. Feb 11 at 3pm; Public Comment
 - v. Feb 25 at 3pm (tentatively budget approval)
 - vi. Mar 25 at 3pm; Public Comment
 - vii. April 29 at 3pm

Motion to adopt made by: [Johnston](#) Seconded by: [Davis](#)

Members Approving: All

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

IV. Discussion Items

- a. The Principal's Coffee Talk yesterday went well and Mr. Bland was able to address many parent questions
- b. Is there any flexibility with stated health metrics for return-to-school (100 cases per 100,000)? Dr. Toomey at GA Dept of Public Health has supported the methodology and APS is using that metric as a firm guideline for the return-to-school decision (APS posts updated data from DPH each day on their website). If we aren't able to return to school on Oct 26 then Principal Bland's focus will transition to maintaining quality virtual instruction.
- c. APS' first asynchronous Wednesday was yesterday. APS made the schedule change announcement very recently, so moving forward the teachers will have additional time to plan. Asynchronous Wednesdays will continue to become more robust as teachers have additional time to plan. In addition to reserving this day to allow APS maintenance dedicated time to clean, teachers also need this flexible day to plan for second nine weeks (there will likely be a second student materials pick-up planned as well). At this time no schedule changes are planned for the other days of the week Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri in terms of lengthening the day.
- d. Technology – APS has previously announced a large technology rollout of Chromebooks by the end of the year. Every student should be eligible to receive them to allow for 1:1 technology.
- e. If APS isn't able to resume in person on Oct 26, are we aware of the next targeted potential in person date? Not to Mr. Bland's knowledge at this time.

More to come, likely tomorrow afternoon when APS communicates the final decision regarding feasibility of Oct 26 return date.

V. Principal's Update

a. **Phase II Update** – Mr. Bland has been focused on Morris Brandon's return to school plan. He has been closely monitoring the intent survey data for students returning and for staff teleworking needs. The week of Oct 19 Mr. Bland will have a Town Hall where he will share final staffing and return to school plans, pending a final decision by APS.

- a. Safety is our #1 priority, for students and staff. APS has set face-to-face safety guidelines including Care Rooms, one-wall hallways, etc that Morris Brandon will follow
- b. 76% of Brandon's student population intends to return in-person
- c. Mr. Bland is working to minimize change for students (trying not to change homeroom teachers if at all possible) and also trying to avoid "roomies and Zoomies" where one teacher is teaching in-person and virtual simultaneously in favor of dedicated teachers for each group
- d. MB is the largest elementary school in APS; we had the highest completion rate at 94%; we had the highest percentage of students that wanted to return in person at 76%
 - a. Of the 211 students staying virtual:
 - a. 108 were black (52%)
 - b. 13 were Hispanic (6%)
 - c. 18 were Asian (9%)
 - d. 72 were White (33%)
 - b. Black students make up 19% (160 students) in Morris Brandon's total population overall demographics; of those 67% opted for virtual learning. This is similar to what APS is seeing across the district but results in a lack of diversity for our school which values IB and caring for our community; this spotlights the equity issue
 - a. Morris Brandon was able to partner with Peachtree Hills Center in the first nine weeks to allow ~14 of our students with the greatest need to have access to facilitation with proctors as well as breakfast and lunch daily
 - b. What needs can the GO Team and Brandon parent community help with? Do we need to free up bus space if we return face to face? Do we need to give back spaces at The Hive for students with greater need? Brandon's Family Engagement committee has their first meeting in November and could help with this effort.
 - c. Overall our students are getting online and logging in to their classes. Our teachers will continue to take care of our kids.

VI. Announcements

- a. None

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Whitaker](#)

Seconded by: [Davis](#)

Members Approving: all

Members Opposing: none

Members Abstaining: none

Motion **Passes**

ADJOURNED AT 3:51pm

Minutes Taken By: [Fran Egan](#)

Position: [GO Team Secretary](#)

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