

Meeting Minutes

Morris Brandon ES

Date: 2/28/21

Time: 3:00pm

Location: Video conference via Zoom

- I. Call to order: 3:004m
- 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	Present
Instructional Staff	Maggie Blease	Present
Instructional Staff	Rachel Davis	Present
Community Member	Anna Fiveash	Absent
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: **Johnston**

Members Approving: All

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

b. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Motion to adopt made by: **Johnston** Seconded by: **Blease**

Members Approving: All

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

IV. Discussion Items

a. 4 GO Team members have terms expiring on 6/30/21

1. Parent: Fran Egan – intends to run again
2. Staff: Sam DeCarlo
3. Swing: Tamila Jackson-Whitaker
4. Community: Anna Fiveash

b. What can we do to help keep our virtual students engaged?

- Peyton Johnston has developed some ideas. She will lead this effort and liaison with PTA volunteers. (The PTA will ensure virtual homerooms have room parents.)
 - Pen pails (snail mail) – request one letter a month Feb-May
 - Zoom play dates; could use “Together” App – integrates games and Facetime. Mr. Bland suggested maybe a monthly Friday lunchtime Zoom with the in-person students as a grade level
 - Parent outreach – get volunteers to check in with virtual families; helps to continue to foster relationships among parents
 - Parent meet and greet by grade for the parents of Virtual students; this could be conducted over Zoom and lead by Room Parents
 - Virtual Family Town Hall to focus on those families and their unique needs; perhaps include Mrs. Whitaker. Mr. Bland agreed with this idea.
 - Share compliments/IB characteristics with students in other classes – Mrs. Blease said this used to be done around Valentine’s Day, and perhaps there is a way to do this virtual with FlipGrid or another digital resource

V. Principal’s Update

a. Return + Learn Update – 79% of our students opted to return in-person

- a. The first week back face-to-face for grades K-2 is going great. Very proud of our staff in pulling this off. APS is establishing a testing dashboard and so far we have not had any needed quarantines these first few days.
- b. ~200 cars participating in carpool – separate entrances and temperature checks are working well and the process is getting faster as we go.
- c. Desk shields were purchased by the MB Foundation and installed last weekend. This is very helpful to allow the kids to each lunch at their desks without masks.
- d. We are very excited for grades 3-5 returning face-to-face on February 8th and staff is preparing for this. Currently filming a video to help illustrate mitigation strategies and help prepare kids to return to Main Campus.

Meeting Minutes

- e. APS has partnered with Viral Solutions to do antigen tests weekly – we are the first district in the state to offer this. APS has more information coming out this week. Aim is to try to catch asymptomatic spread.
 - a. We cannot mandate testing, but we are highly encouraging participation. Electronic consent forms will be sent. The test is a less invasive nasal swab test and results return within 24 hours. This will begin next week.
 - b. How many students? Aiming for a high number
 - c. How often will testing be run at Brandon? One day per week. Suggest the tests be done on Friday or Tuesday to allow a day after testing that kids aren't in school in case follow-up is needed.
 - f. DLI teachers are doing Roomies and Zoomies (teaching to both face-to-face and virtual students concurrently)
 - a. APS World Languages Dept has provided clear masks for DLI teachers; not sure if these are being used – they have been sent directly to teachers' mailboxes
 - b. We are hiring a Spanish-speaking substitute to support these classrooms
 - g. APS Superintendent Dr. Herring is part of a group of education leaders speaking out to advocate for vaccines for teachers. The Governor's response is that there are not enough vaccines currently. Teachers are in group 1B, which may be as soon as March.
- b. **2021-2022 Budget Projection**
- a. All GO Team members need to complete the online Budget assessment (sent via email)
 - b. Morris Brandon has a \$481,279 budget decline for 2021-2022 school year due to a projected decrease of 71 students (forecasting 879 total students for next year). This translates to 5.3 positions that may be impacted, depending on how the budget is able to be re-aligned.
 - a. APS allowed Principals to select conservative or optimistic model of student enrollment projections (Mr. Bland chose optimistic – calculates that 75% of K who left will return next year and 50% of other grades)
 - a. Morris Brandon conducted a survey to ascertain intent to return of those families who have left the school this year. 73 families responded to the survey; 35 said they will return, 10 are unsure, 28 will not return
 - c. APS got \$89M in CARES funding and they have surveyed GO Team members for priorities, which included maintaining current staffing levels as an option for those funds

Meeting Minutes

VI. Announcements

- a. The next GO Team meeting will be February 11th at 3pm and will allow for public comment
- b. Our March GO Team meeting is moving to March 11th at 3pm (same Zoom link) to allow for final budget approval
 - i.

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Davis](#)

Seconded by: [Fotzeu](#)

Members Approving: all

Members Opposing: none

Members Abstaining: none

Motion Passes

ADJOURNED AT 4:38pm

Minutes Taken By: [Fran Egan](#)

Position: [GO Team Secretary](#)

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