

Mannion Middle School
School Organizational Team Minutes
September 20, 2018
3:30 PM

The Mannion School Organizational Team meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM on September 20, 2018. The meeting was held in the library at Mannion Middle School.

Members present:

Michelle Reilly, Chair
Rachelle Abbott, Member
Robynn Grattini, Member
Pam Hibbard, Member
Amy Moser, Member
Brielle Parises, Member
Kym Rodriguez, Member
Christine Schwab, Member
Kim Slusher, Member
Isaac Summers, Member
Vanessa Mari, Community Member
Todd Petersen, Principal

Members absent:

Mara Brasser, Member
Sandy Wilson, Member
Colt Abbott, Student Member

Old Agenda Items

- **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting dated August 16, 2018, were presented. Member Amy Moser made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded. There was a counted vote with 9 in favor and 0 opposed.

*Member Christine Schwab is new to the team. She is filling the vacancy left behind by Amy Frost.

New Agenda Items

- **Update on SOT Election Process**

Parent elections were held on September 6th. Elections for licensed staff and support staff have occurred as well. The new team will meet in October. Students interested in serving as the student representative for the SOT have been asked to submit their application by September 21st. The student body will vote for the representative of their choice within the coming weeks.

- **Update on 2018-2019 Program Initiatives**

The student ID program began on August 30th. Parents were informed of the initiative before it went into effect. Students are required to wear their IDs from 1st period through the end of the school day. Students wishing to purchase an extra or replacement ID and lanyard are permitted to do so. Classroom laptops have been placed in each teacher's classroom for students to log in and out of the classroom. This helps with supervision as students arrive late, leave the classroom to use the restroom, go to their lockers, etc. Hope2 tutoring funds are available to pay teachers that utilize their prep period to tutor their students who are in In-House Suspension for the day. The special education mentorship as well as WEB mentorship programs are going well. The goal for the WEB program is to have two activities each semester this year and then possibly increase the number of activities next year as we build upon the program. Administrators are currently reviewing data to match teachers with students who struggled on the SBAC as part of the Teacher Mentorship program. The other school initiative involves the Kajeets. The Kajeets, which provide students and their families with access to relevant internet sites, should be arriving to the school any day now and will be distributed to those students who have been identified for the program. Member Robynn Grattini mentioned that some students have expressed that they have access to a phone with internet but not a computer. This limits the activities they are able to complete. The suggestion was made to look into this issue more for next year so we can help more of our students have access to a computer at home so they can complete the necessary work being assigned in their classes.

- **Update on Enrollment Numbers**

The Count Day enrollment numbers from September 7th are as follows: 6th grade=536, 7th grade=524, 8th grade=515, Total=1575. We made our projected count. However, there has been a change in CCSD Resource Room allocations due to a change in the ratio of teachers to students. The new breakdown and impact are as follows:

2017-2018: 22 to 1 (6 teachers)

2018-2019: 24 to 1 (5 teachers)

*Mannion will lose 1 special education teacher for 2018-2019, which currently is a vacant position. This means we are not losing an actual teacher, but the position itself.

- **Staffing Update**

There currently are not any vacancies for teachers or support staff. However, due to the change in the ratio for special education, the vacant special education position is to be eliminated. The SOT was presented with four possible options by Principal Todd Petersen.

1. Dissolve 5 sections of CC classes=\$0

2. Purchase Additional SPED Teacher for 18-19 School Year for \$79,833

3. Purchase Additional SPTA for 18-19 School Year for \$32,484

4. Purchase Long-Term Sub for 18-19 School Year for \$16,500

SOT Comments: Principal Todd Petersen explained that while option 1 does not cost any money, it does cause the most disruption to students as many of them will need to have a schedule change to accommodate for dissolving 5 sections of CC classes. It was also explained that no one applied for the position when we still had a vacancy, so paying \$79,833 for an additional special education teacher (option 2) does not guarantee that we will get someone to fill the position in a timely manner. The money is due in full regardless of when the position is filled. SOT members inquired about the current money in the budget to finance these options. It was explained that the supply fund currently contains a little less than \$200,000. Option 3 is cheaper than hiring a special education teacher. An SPTA was currently hired to fill another vacant position and there wasn't a large candidate pool for that position, so there might not be a wide selection of qualified candidates to choose from should we select the third option. Option 4 is the principal's suggestion. There is currently a long-term sub in the position who is committed to staying in this position for the rest of the school year. The sub has experience working at Mannion from previous years and can be dismissed at any time if administration no longer believes it is a good fit. Member Amy Moser raised concerns about the change in ratio for the special education program as well as how it would impact students. She drew a parallel between the changes to the ratio for resource classes to the lack of an additional special education teacher to the decrease in the school's star rating due to lack of adequate growth for the special education subgroup on SBAC testing. There is concern that not hiring a special education teacher will further cause problems with the growth of special education students on SBACs. Principal Todd Petersen acknowledged the comments made by Amy Moser and also expressed concern over the change in ratio and SBAC scores. The administration is reviewing data to determine the best way to support students. It would be ideal to have more special education teachers but it is not within the budget. It was then explained to the SOT that the state legislature determines the ratio not the school itself and the options presented are the best available choices given the current situation.

Public Comments: None

Vote: Member Kym Rodriguez made a motion to approve option #4-Purchase of a Long-Term Sub for 18-19 School Year. The motion was seconded. There was a counted vote with 9 in favor and 1 opposed.

- **SBAC Results & SPF Rating**

Mannion earned 80 points for the 2017-2018 school year. This point value translates to a 5-star rating. However, because one of the sub groups (special education) did not show the required amount of growth two years in a row, the school was designated as TSI (Targeted Supports & Improvements). Because of this, the highest star rating the school can receive is 3 stars. It is unclear at this time what specific supports the school will receive to improve student growth. The next steps include assembling a team of teachers and staff members to analyze the SBAC data. The team will develop a plan of action to better assist our students.

General Discussion

- **Agenda Planning: Items for Future Agendas**

1. School Improvement Plan

2. Reorganization of responsibilities to 2018-2019 SOT members

3. Examples of successful special education program models from other schools (January meeting)

Information

- **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on October 11, 2018, in the Mannion Middle School Library at 3:30 P.M.

Public Comment Period

- There was no public comment regarding agenda items at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.