

Edgar Allan Poe Elementary School

SDMC Minutes
February 20, 2016

1. Review of previous minutes
Previous minutes were read and approved.
2. There we no new input forms submitted.

Mr. Amerson discussed the following with the committee:

3. Early Dismissal for next year
Mr. Amerson told the committee that it is time to think about whether we want to continue early dismissals for the 2016-17 school year. Although we have not received notice that this is due, he wants the teachers to have plenty of time to think about this. Ms. Sara Williams stated that she did not know how we would manage to get our IB planning done without the additional time. Ms. Garza said she loves the additional planning time. Other members said that now that it has been happening for a while they would like to be able to continue. Mr. Amerson asked the members to take this back to the grade level teachers to discuss and told them this must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote if it is to continue. He does not want to rush the decision if we are given a quick turn around time.
4. Student Progress
Mr. Amerson reminded members of the importance of tracking student progress using the TEKS Tracker charts. He wants students in tutorials to be grouped according to the SEs they are the weakest in and also wants teachers differentiating how they are using the teaching assistants at their grade levels. For example, he wants the assistant at times monitoring the whole group while the teacher does the pull out group. He reminded the group that we are 3 weeks away from the first 5th grade STAAR administration.
5. Safety Monitoring
We have noticed that several parents are pulling in to the South Blvd teachers' parking lot to pick up and drop off students in spite of the signs. A reminder will be sent home and different staff members will take turns standing in the drive until the buses have pulled through, then a cone will be placed in its spot.
6. Attendance
Our attendance took a serious dip during the holiday season. Our attendance goal is 97%. Teachers were reminded to call home if a student is out more than 2 days and also to notify Stephanie if the absence is longer. We want to ensure that our children are well but that they are also in school. Members were asked to brainstorm incentives to help boost attendance.

Our next SDMC meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2016.

