

Banning Lewis Academy
School Accountability Advisory Committee (SAC) Minutes for Meeting

Monday August 31st, 2020 at 6:00PM via Zoom

Rick Dahlman is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: BLA School Accountability Committee Meeting

Time: August 31, 2020 06:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/98065928186?pwd=ejExeUJVQXF1dUpsdDF4UzJoRzQwZz09>

ID: 980 6592 8186 Password: ZP0y3V

Call Meeting to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM by Rick Dahlman and Guin Leeder

1. Roll Call

1.1. In attendance:

Guin Leeder, chair, middle school parent representative

Kati Lusk, co-chair, elementary school parent representative

Corey Gamboa, secretary, elementary school parent representative

Rick Dahlman, BLPA principal representative

Jordan Voltz, BLRA principal representative

Laura Estevez, BLRA elementary school representative

Nicole Teti, BLRA elementary school representative

Kendra England, BLPA high school representative

Chris Hannaway, high school parent representative

Leigh Sabey, PTO representative

Marcie Kibet, high school student

Not in attendance:

Colton Walker, high school student

2. Approval of Agenda: Kendra England moved to approve the meeting agenda, Kati Lusk seconded, all approved.

3. Special Guests: No special guests

4. Subcommittee Reports: None

5. Discussion Items:

5.1. Identify SAC membership and discuss the role of SAC. (Guin Leeder and Kati Lusk). According to our official bylaws we provide recommendations to the school board that inform the board on their decisions. We are also responsible for making recommendations to the principal on spending school moneys. We also make recommendations to the principal and superintendent regarding the School Improvement Plan. We are required to hold meetings at least quarterly. We publicize and discuss strategies for the Improvement Plan. We provide input and recommendations to the DAAC on an advisory basis. We look at opportunities to engage parents. We are required to have certain representatives:

5.1.1. Principal representative from BLRA: Jordan Voltz

5.1.2. Principal representative from BLPA: Rick Dahlman

5.1.3. Teach/staff member from elementary: Laura Estevez

5.1.4. Teach/staff member from middle school: pending

5.1.5. Teach/staff member from high school: Kendra England

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- 5.1.6. Parent from elementary: Kati Lusk
- 5.1.7. Parent from middle school: Guin Leeder
- 5.1.8. Parent from high school: Chris Hanaway
- 5.1.9. Member of an organization of parents, teachers, and students recognized by the school: Leigh Sabey
- 5.1.10. Person from the community who does not have a child attending the school: pending
- 5.1.11. Additional voting members: Corey Gamboa, Nicole Teti
- 5.1.12. Student non-voting members: Mercy Kibet, Colton Walker
- 5.2. COVID-19 policies and experiences at the elementary, middle school and high school levels. Return to Learn (Principals from BLRA and BLPA)
 - 5.2.1. Jordan Voltz - BLRA

The Ranch is currently in a week of transition. We spent the last 2 weeks with just K-2 classes being held on campus, and this week we are transitioning in the 3rd and 4th grade classrooms. Next week the 5th grade classrooms will be returning. We have spent the last 2 weeks getting the AMP program and Schoology programs up and running. As a school we are using the cohort model. All of our classes are 25 or less. No two classes cross or co-mingle with one another. We have a pretty well laid out plan with minute-to-minute logistics as far as who is in the hallway and where classes are moving. Recess is divided into 5 different zones using separate equipment and separate activities. Hand washing stations are being set up and additional are ordered but on back order. Temperatures are taken everyday. Families are being very proactive on any symptoms and keeping students home. Limiting the amount of contact for shared manipulatives in the classrooms. The online schoology program has been very
 - 5.2.2. Rick Dahlman - BLPA

The middle school will be coming back to school next week. Communications have been sent out to the families regarding Return to Learn. We will be using the 4/5 schedule so students will not be attending 7 different classes and interacting with more students throughout the day. Each class level will have its own wing of the school as can be allowed. We are using staggered releases to minimize traffic in the hallways. One way hallways with social distancing markers and cues with staff enforcing during passing periods. Also during the 15-minute passing period we will be using staff and students to help clean surfaces for the next class. Daily health assessments at home with daily temperature checks, face masks are mandatory with mask breaks throughout the day. Following El Paso County and CDC recommendations and communicating to the families as necessary. One-to-one laptops for all high school and middle school

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students. Plexiglass in classrooms that have table setups. We will still be releasing the students midday with a grab-and-go lunch available. The rest of the day will be relegated to individual time or office hours. During the “lunch-time” break there will be structured social-emotional learning time. Can Do You and Second Step curriculums and a counselor will Zoom into the classroom and run a structured activity and positive behavior interventions and supports for the students.

5.2.3. Currently this is the plan for the 1st semester and high school will be back by the end of September with a similar track of the 4/5 schedule for the high school as well. The school board is tracking the situation and responding as necessary.

5.3. MLO Expenditures:

5.3.1. MLO 3A overview: Using 4 categories of Program, Safety/Security, Compensation, and Technology. There is \$340,532 for the two buildings BLRA/BLPA. Our committee is monitoring the progress of the funds focusing on the following:

5.3.1.1. Continuing repayment of capital construction costs authorized by the 2005 ballot question;

5.3.1.2. Attracting and retaining highly effective teachers by offering salaries and benefits that are competitive with other districts in El Paso County;

5.3.1.2.1. We have used this fund for the last few years to help pay teacher bonuses. Returning teachers are eligible for a \$3000 bonus based on hitting performance marks.

5.3.1.2.2. Our salaries are competitive on starting salaries. We could look at making veteran teacher salaries more competitive and creative.

5.3.1.3. Offering classes for students to receive college credits, earn career certifications, and prepare academics and employment after high school;

5.3.1.4. Securing the grounds, traffic flow, main entries, and classrooms at district schools while training and equipping safety personnel;

5.3.1.5. Providing students with technology to adapt and accelerate achievement and teacher training and support to enhance and assess learning.

5.3.2. MLO 3B overview: There is \$113,511 available for teacher bonuses in the fund:

5.3.2.1. Attracting and retaining highly effective teachers by offering salaries and benefits that are competitive with other districts in El Paso County;

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- 5.3.2.2. Making priority capital improvements to restore and refurbish all existing educational facilities on a regular pattern going forward;
 - 5.3.2.2.1. Applies to the Ranch mostly, but this year the Prep can also access this fund.
- 5.3.2.3. Investing in the traditional high schools to ensure the buildings provide equitable opportunities for students and safe and effective environments for student achievement;
 - 5.3.2.3.1. Our high school is not a traditional high school, and this does not apply to our model.
- 5.3.2.4. Constructing two K-5 neighborhood schools in order to serve current demand in the central and northern portions of the district;
 - 5.3.2.4.1. This is more a requisite on the district level than on our school.
- 5.3.3. OTHER FINANCES:
 - 5.3.3.1. COVID-19 funding: CARES funding based on our enrollment at the time we received approximately \$600,000 which we have worked to spend on plexiglass, sanitization, portable washing stations (back ordered until 2022) as well as technology. We have purchased 100 iPads to replace out-of-date equipment, 70 new teacher laptops to replace outdated and malfunctioning equipment, and enough chromebooks to give every high school student a personal chromebook.
 - 5.3.3.2. At the principal meeting tomorrow they will be discussing a new program called Securly which is a web-filtering and web-monitoring system. Our quote for 1500 licenses is \$22,000 a year and could be considered a repeating MLO expense because it falls under technology and safety. It also monitors what a student types into a web search engine and sends an alert to the school which is over and above the current Google program. District 49 is using this program already.
- 5.4. Increasing Parent Engagement opportunities (Guin Leeder and Rick Dahlman)
 - 5.4.1. Representation at the Prep during Round-Up. Engaged with families and many were interested in finding out more.
 - 5.4.2. Updates on the website with Brittany.
 - 5.4.3. Looking forward to more representation opportunities to gather parent engagement at school events.
 - 5.4.4. PTO and Booster Club opportunities to help push information out to families.
- 5.5. Remarks from DAAC (District Accountability Advisory Committee (Guin Leeder and Kati Lusk)
 - 5.5.1. The DAAC meets monthly at the District 49 offices off Woodman. Next meeting on Sept 22nd
 - 5.5.2. Board member - Rick Van Wieren discussed the recent work session and how District 49 is planning to go back to school on September 8th.

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- 5.5.3. Martha Bodell - Military Student Transition Assistant for D49. She is from the Military Child Education Coalition, parent organization, in Texas. She is currently deployed here and reporting back to Texas. They work with military-connected kids to serve their academic and emotional needs. She has met with all the targeted schools of which we are one.
- 5.5.4. Amber Whetstein - Learning Services talked about school accountability structures. A pilot program to look at a more local approach to school accountability. The district has a grant of \$49,000 to set up a pilot program to identify a local model. They want to know what parents value most, i.e., high expectations for student learning, safety and security, school communication, operations (ratios in classroom and budgeting), leadership, community engagement, and school culture are the themes they will be focusing on. The district website has surveys and thought exchange discussions to get feedback from the community.
- 5.5.5. Subcommittees
 - 5.5.5.1. Budget group talked about MLO spending. The board is impressed with how we are prioritizing how to spend those moneys.
 - 5.5.5.2. Charter group will meet as needed to review charter applications.
 - 5.5.5.3. Family engagement group meets before the DAAC meeting.
- 5.5.6. Rick Dahlman has volunteered to be the DAAC representative from our SAC committee and has offered to make all the meetings unless they coincide with a Banning School Board meeting. In that case Guin Leeder or Kati Lusk can step in.

6. **Action Items:**

- 6.1. Recruit middle school teacher representative (Rick Dahlman).
- 6.2. Continue to reach out to the community regarding recruiting a member from the community who does not have a child attending the school (Kati Lusk possible leads).
- 6.3. Discuss returning teacher salaries more competitive at the next meeting.
- 6.4. Possibility of an interim meeting to vote on MLO expenditures. Email will be distributed.
- 6.5. Providing links and information in weekly school and teacher newsletters and look at upcoming events having representation or a booth.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM Next meeting: October 12, 2020