

CDMC Minutes

10/19/19

CDMC met on Thursday, October 10 at Alta Vista Elementary at 5:37 pm. Present were staff Logan, Helton, Templeton, Rawles, Spark, Ward, Lopez, Bearden, Cosper, Breeding, Williams. 3 parents (Fain, Martinez, Clark) attended and 1 representative from Grassroots Community Development (Jones). Childcare was provided for children, and Ms. Lopez was available for translations.

Attendees introduced themselves. Logan reviewed status of campus as a member of Waco ISD and Transformation Waco (in-district charter).

Logan reviewed 2019 Accountability Ratings from TEA. The campus received a D in the area of Student Achievement, C in School Progress, and C in Closing the Gaps. Alta Vista has an overall rating of C from the state. The Closing the Gaps rating improved from a D in 2018 to C in 2019.

Logan reviewed specific areas of success on STAAR. 80% of growth targets were met in both reading and math. The campus increased student achievement by 5 points. The percentage of African Americans at Approaches grade level or higher increased by 17 percentage points. The campus increased the total number of students at "Meets" or "Masters" levels on STAAR. Alta Vista was in the top 25% of campuses for the number of students mastering grade level in 4th grade reading.

Logan identified areas of need for STAAR. The campus needs to increase achievement for EL and Special Education students. In addition, we need to increase the number of students at "Meets" or "Masters" in all subjects and grade levels, especially in sub-populations for Math. Finally, the campus is focused on increasing the number of Hispanics and overall students at "Meets" or "Masters" for reading and math. The campus is utilizing TEKS Resource System to plan effective and rigorous instruction aligned with standards.

Logan discussed the four campus priorities: increase student achievement (B rating), increase parent involvement, decrease ISS incidents, and increase student attendance. The campus is promoting attendance incentives and sending out regular communication about attendance rates (IE: outdoor sign updated daily with number of students absent). The campus has partnered with Grassroots Community Development to create a parent engagement team.

Elise from Grassroots described the efforts of the core group of the parent engagement team. The team created grade level flip-books with important information for parents. Every teacher is meeting with families to have goal-setting and student-led data conferences. The group is also planning "New Family Orientations" and will be planning the first orientation soon. Each grade level is sending home a 6-weeks newsletter that details upcoming learning outcomes and ways parents can support learning at home. Elise invited parents in attendance to join the committee.

Logan has attendees review the Campus Improvement Plan with a focus on the four campus goals. Logan asked attendees to focus on Goal 2 (Creating a safe and supportive environment in which students, staff, parents, and community members are meaningfully and actively engaged in increasing positive behavior, regular attendance, and academic success. Strategies include: College & Career week, attendance incentives, House system, Red Ribbon week, Communities in Schools. Behavior strategies include Boys to Men, Girl CODE, CHAMPS, Conscious Discipline, Morning Meetings, and "Adopt A Cop" program.

Logan asked parents for feedback on the goal-setting conferences. Two parents reported how they appreciated the opportunity to really understand the learning goals for the grade level. One parent reported

how they were glad they moved to Alta Vista because now her son is excelling academically. The goal-setting conferences replaced the traditional "Open House" so that every family could have an opportunity to have a personal conversation with teachers.

Logan explained the campus policy of "Limited Homework." The campus encourages students to participate in after-school enrichment opportunities, reading, and fact fluency. One parent reported that both students' teachers have done a great job of sending home extra practice to support learning.

Logan reviewed plans for our family engagement event on November 5. Grades 3-5 will be doing a musical performance saluting our heroes. Teachers will have games set up to show families how different games will support learning at home. In December, there will be a holiday music program. In January, there will be a family event for bowling with Transformation Waco. Logan reviewed other upcoming family engagement events. Helton reminded everyone about Thanksgiving lunch on November 22.

Ward reported about our new Family Cafes sponsored by Methodist Children's Home. This will be an opportunity for parents to engage with each other on different parenting activities. Food will be provided for you and your students. The meeting will be located in our Inspiracion portable building and will occur in the evening several times this year.

Logan asked for any other feedback or questions. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.