

CAC Agenda  
Baldwin Elementary  
September 11, 2023

1. Introductions

Jennifer Murray (principal), Lynda Velaquez (parent), Ali Morrison (teacher), Katie Mobley (SPED teacher), Kristen Hudgens (PTA president), Alex Hassett (AP), Alma Arriaga (classified staff), Kylie Schantz (teacher), Amy Spencer (teacher), Kristine Bradley (parent), Waliya Lari (parent), Casey Phillips (parent), Mallory Owens (A+ Credit Union), Kelly Hively (teacher)

2. Policy & select co-chairs

- One must be faculty member and other non-faculty member
- Job is to help create the agenda for CAC
- Ali Morrison will co chair as a faculty member
- Lynda Velaquez will co chair as the parent representative

3. Track/irrigation update

- Track was put in by the district this summer
- Cost over \$100,000
- In addition to track they put curbs in to prevent erosion, fixed irrigation inside the track, and sprayed seed to help grow grass on the field
- There was a problem last week with the water tank as the water pump was broken, so water was gushing out
  - Valve in ground or plunger in tank may be broken so it's not recognizing that it's full leading to the overflow
  - Valve is turned off but we can longer water the grass with the irrigation system until it is fixed
  - Construction company determined that it now AISD's issue to solve but AISD said they do not work on water tanks and water irrigation systems
  - We have reached out to three different people and have not heard back
  - We are currently in a stand still as to what to do to remedy the issue
  - Kristen suggested reaching out to a previous Baldwin family to get a company recommendation to fix the issue
    - We aren't able to write a check for this
    - Insurance would not cover it as it is maintenance
- Track was supposed to be opened last week but there were still some punch list items not completed
  - We are waiting for punch list items to be completed and ground picked up before we open the track

4. Special Areas

- Currently a topic with the board at the moment
- We are required to have a minimum of 135 min of PE, 90 min. of music, and 90 min. of art each week
- We have 6 allotted special areas teachers so we only have 3 classes in PE at any given time
  - We have 2 PE coaches and 2 TAs
- We haven't heard of any problems or concerns with special areas at this time

## 5. Student Recognition

- Teachers have a Mighty Fine Student of the Week
  - Recognize student for meeting a goal or going above and beyond in class
  - Announced in classroom
  - Get Mighty Fine award in the office
  - Awarded weekly
- Student of the Month
  - Based on character trait
  - Admin went into classes to start the SOTM characteristic of Kindness
  - Classes will provide input into their SOTM
  - Will be announced at last Friday of the month assembly
  - Student will get a certificate and button
    - Buttons were created by the students
- Baldwin Buck Winners
  - Baldwin Bucks are drawn and announced on the PA
  - \$10 winners can earn experiences (office helper, nature walk, elevator pass, etc.)
- We are not doing awards based on grades as we recognize that we have a very motivated population so we don't want anyone to feel discouraged
  - We are focused on progress and not perfection

## 6. Parade route on Friday, October 27, 2023

- WatchDOGS will help
- Occurring at 8:15 AM
- Previously those who live in the back of the neighborhood could park by the pavilion and walk through it to access the parade
- Gates are now closed so we are requesting the gates to be open from the HOA
  - The HOA declined as they want our insurance to cover it despite us not using the pavilion
- There is concern that some neighborhood people may not get the memo and may get stuck behind our parade route
- Hively brought up the idea to have students walk on the sidewalk but parents like to line the street on both sides
- Murray reached out to Austin ISD Police to let them know since we will be on a public road

## 7. Mindfulness Time & Sensory Wall

- Special Areas team is meeting with students who may need a break throughout the day
- Idea is to create a mentor mentee program with flex time in the master schedule
- Students will jog the track, do the sensory wall, sensory paths, etc.
- New sensory wall is up in the first grade pod and the students love it

## 8. Therapy Dog

- We may be getting a therapy dog on campus
- Dog is hypoallergenic and fully trained/insured
- Although we do not want dogs on campus, this dog is a fully certified and insured to support our students
  - She will work her way up to full days

- We will continue to have Abner visit

## 9. Budget Talk

- A budget was completed last year
- One of the areas that we spend most of our money on is an interventionist at the K-2 level (Yolanda Nunez)
  - We have seen huge gains with this early intervention
- We pay for the interventionist with the APEX Fun Run Fundraiser
  - We made about \$74,000
  - 10% of that goes back to the teachers based on how much their class earns
  - We had \$62,000 to go towards our interventionist but we are currently ~\$18,000 short
    - We had about \$8,000 in roll over money
    - We now need \$10,000 to cover the cost
- We have a mandate from the state (HB1416) that says that students who do not meet the standards of the STAAR test must receive between 15-30 hours of accelerated instruction
  - These hours must be on top of what teachers are already doing in the classroom
  - We would love to have interventionists to work with our students to provide these hours
- It was asked if parents can privatize this requirement
  - Parents can opt out in writing but student must show they are proficient on another test
- We would love to have interventionists work with our students but this requires around \$15,000
- We are trying to find \$10,000 for current interventionist and \$15,000 for other interventionists which is a total of \$25,000
  - PTA budget cannot go towards staff
- The budget was reviewed:
  - Total budget from the district is approximately \$55,000
  - \$14,000 for part time library helper
    - Job first started when the district provided money to cover lunch monitors
    - Last year helped to cover not having a librarian
    - Back this year to help Hively get the library up and running
  - We pay between \$140-\$180 for a sub each day
  - Pay over \$10,000 for copier and supplies
  - \$4,000 is for reading materials such as the level library, decodables, etc.
    - This could probably be reduced some as we were given HMH decodables this year by the district
      - Need to talk to the reading specialists about decreasing this
      - Hively moved the literacy library to the PLC room this summer and feels that the campus can hold off on purchasing more this year
    - Last year the budget was \$2,000
  - We have \$15,000 in student supplies which includes all paper and materials
    - Costs about \$1,500- \$2,000 a month to run the school

- It would cost about \$3,000 to get every teacher new ink this year
- The copier is leased and data is provided on how many copies are made
- Overtime for front office employees could be an area to pull from
- We also put in a little bit of money for library, art, special education, and staff development
  - Teachers like to attend TCEA which will be in Austin this year
  - Kristen suggested opening for Grants for Growth to cover teachers wanting to go
- First we need to find the money to cover our K-2 interventionists and then we will update the budget as we get updates from the district
  - Will look at activity fund next time to see where we can flex money
  - We typically get \$1,200 from the Photo Company
  - Donations could also help to cover it

#### 10. Security on campus

- Board passed law to have an armed guard on every campus, which will be part of the AISD police department
- Board has not determined when this will be funded or when it will start
- Casey Phillips asked how students may feel about having someone armed on campus
  - It is no longer a consideration as it is Texas Law
  - Phillips asked about how to prepare students and families
- Part of the bond is to get a vestibule at the front door
  - We just received the plans but have not had time to provide feedback
  - Hively asked about the time frame of the vestibule plan
    - Next summer
- Austin ISD newsletter said it is an unfunded mandate and they are short \$5.5 million to cover it
- Murray will update as she hears more information
- Austin ISD has not granted permission for teachers to carry

#### 11. New business

- District's position on the new special education decision was discussed
  - Principals will have a SPED training all day Wednesday and will be expected to come back and implement with the staff
  - Evaluations were the initial problem but most everything now is up to date on our campus
    - Our special education team is fully staffed
- There will be no leveling at our campus
  - Minimal across the district due to the teacher shortage

Next meeting on Monday, October 16, 2023 @ 3:30