

Winn CAC meeting 5/25/2022

In attendance: Alison Thomasson-Bramley, Sarah Daily, Julie Meacham, Tabatha Stephens, Helena Puente-Garcia, Sharon Fuller-Barnes, Nadia Khan, Larry Garcia, Rebecca Longino, Amy Wright, Missy Garcia, Katie O'Neil, Nikkie Shubitz, Hector Martel, Bhagya Eduri, Daniel Mee, Kimberly Swanson, Zaray Fuentes, Kimberly Johnson, Angela Lee, Mary Alvarez, Cindy Neumeyer, Diana Vallejo

4:36 Ms. Bramley called the meeting to order. She stated there were no citizens communications. Ms. Vallejo requested the meeting to share some information with the group.

4:42 While waiting for Ms. Vallejo, Katie O'Neil shared information about increasing PTA membership for next school year. She shared the desire to reach out to families that typically do not have access to school information through social media. Becca Longino shared that on Friday at the end of the school day, there will be popsicles and ice cream to dispense to students. After dismissal, a group will be going to Dottie Jordan for a play date. Katie shared a PTA interest form in the chat that she asked to be widely shared. Ms. Meacham asked if she would like to share the form on clasdojo.

4:47 Nikkie Shubitz shared information regarding a parent survey from the Multilingual department.

4:49 CAC took a break until 5:00

5:00 Ms. Vallejo shared the numbers for enrollment. Online registration only takes approximately 6 minutes for parents, unless they have forgotten their log in. Many parents do not remember their log-in from last year and district staff must be contacted to reset the log-in information. Regarding enrollment, 56% was our count from last week and this week, the number is 60%. The district asked for schools to try to reach 80% enrollment by this Friday, May 27. Ms. Vallejo approved 7 transfers this past Monday, there are 2 tuition based PreK4 students for transfers that have not yet come through. There are at least 10 seats available for PreK in order for us to keep our teacher allocation. Cohort 3 Montessori training will begin this summer. Four teachers have agreed and will be attending the training. There are 2 teachers who will be attending a virtual training this summer who are currently in bilingual early childhood classrooms in the district and for which we do not have a current opening. In July, when Ms. Maria returns (registrar), she will pick back up with registration. Nikkie Shubitz asked about DL enrollment for younger students. There is a DL event happening on June 11. Winn is not currently assigned to a booth yet, as Ms. Shubitz was not sure if there would be seats available. Ms. Vallejo said we had seats available. She has hired a teacher for the Primary bilingual class that has been added. The teacher is in the district and has agreed to the 5 week training this summer. A bilingual teacher has been hired who was in a Montessori program as a child in Mexico and will attend the training. Most teacher candidates are interested in the Montessori program and are choosing Winn for that reason. In the UE program, there are 4 positions open. Two resource teachers are coming, one from Summit and one from Blanton. Both teachers live in the area. A teacher from Navarro is coming to the campus and has a 4 year old she wants to put in the program. The numbers for special ed testing may rise and we want to have a bilingual resource teacher on campus. A recommendation has been made for the PE coach. He is coming from Galveston. A recommendation for the art teacher has been made. Waiting for her to accept the

position. Very interested in the Montessori program. Has not yet found a music teacher. Interviewed a candidate who has 4 offers and she has not yet decided. Ms. Khan asked if Ms. LaCour was returning. Ms. Vallejo shared that she had a conversation with Ms. LaCour and shared that she heard she was a great teacher and hoped she would return. Ms. LaCour has not yet confirmed. Ms. Johnson asked about the training for the Montessori program. Ms. Johnson asked about Winn researching other Montessori programs in the area to see how they are doing things. Ms. Vallejo shared that since Winn is a public open transfer school and the only one in the district, we really have to develop our own program within the public school system. Ms. Vallejo shared how impressed she has been with the language of the students at Winn during her 18 days here. She is learning a lot from the program and one is to not be so rigid with expectations for children. Ms. Shubitz shared about some of the Magnolia students coming to Winn and then going back to Magnolia. Ms. Vallejo said she was not aware of that situation, but would be working on a project with Magnolia and some of their teachers would be joining Winn teachers for the summer training.

5:30 Ms. Alvarez shared some of her history with the district and Winn, in particular. She shared some of the statements that have been made during meetings with community members about how Winn should have a waiting list for the program. She agreed that Winn should be full of Montessori students by now, but for various reasons, that has not happened. She reviewed some of the information from the equity meetings, both with the staff and parents. Ms. Alvarez shared she has thoroughly enjoyed working with the Office of Equity. She shared some of the information regarding her meetings with the Lower Elementary team at Winn. Ms. Blessum was in attendance at the first meeting. The teachers had a slideshow ready for the meeting and were very prepared. The teachers shared how having 3 grade levels in one classroom was too much for them to teach effectively. They were concerned about having a high stakes testing grade level in with other grade levels. Ms. Alvarez reached out to 3 public Montessori Principals in different towns in Texas. She asked how they develop the students who are in high stakes testing grade levels while working with lower grade levels. Ms. Alvarez spoke with the academics department and shared the concern that changing the configuration of the classrooms might potentially change the teacher allotment at Winn. She stated they did not walk out of the meeting with a decision. Ms. Alvarez shared with Principals from Odessa and Dallas and both stated they did not recommend splitting the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade classrooms. The Principal from Dallas shared how she brought in a professional Montessori staff member to work with the teachers to make it work. A public Montessori program cannot operate in the same way as a private Montessori school. The district is committed to providing the teachers the support they need. Ms. Vallejo has spoken with a woman named Nora who is a Montessori training coach. She is currently and will continue to work with coaching Magnolia. Ms. Alvarez shared that the district will be taking a group of Lower Elementary teachers to Dallas to observe in their public Montessori schools. She shared that the district will not be changing the configuration of the classrooms, but will change the level of support. Ms. Alvarez stated she had a 3rd meeting with the LE team to share the news and was nervous to tell them the district would not be changing the classrooms as they had requested. She told them the information and why the classrooms would not be changed. She was pleased to say that at the end of the meeting, the teachers seemed to be committed to staying at Winn. One of them stated she wanted to stay to support the new teachers. Another shared she would stay, as she believed in the program. Ms. LaCour

was not present at the meeting, due to being out on family leave. Ms. Alvarez shared regarding the Principal Interview process. The timeline has changed for the beginning of the rounds of interviews. Ms. Alvarez wanted more time to reach out for candidates on different platforms. Amy Wright asked about current Winn staff members who might be candidates for the Principal or AP positions. She stated she knew of at least two. The first round of interviews will be on June 8. Ms. Vallejo just received the Principal profile and will send it out to the Winn Campus and community. Ms. Alvarez suggested the profile go out in Ms. Vallejo's smore letter. Ms. V shared she might not be able to get the smore ready with all of the information by Friday. There was discussion about sending out the CAC notes and the Principal profile on the smore, on the Winn FB page and possibly on class dojo. Ms. Khan suggested a condensed version of the CAC notes on the smore. Ms. Vallejo stated she might be able to complete the smore by Friday with translating the notes. Ms. Shubitz asked if the screening committee and the interview committee were the same. Ms. Alvarez shared information about the Principals in the vertical team being included in the screening process. She then shared who was automatically included in the nomination interview team: CAC co-chairs, PTA President and a campus based staff member chosen by Mr. Hicks. From the staff members who are interested, they must write a short bio to submit. The district does look for diversity on the committee. Ms. Alvarez stated she believes a Montessori certified staff member, especially a bilingual teacher, be on the committee. Ms. Alvarez stated there is a Spanish speaking parent who has been very involved in the school meetings and she is a great option for the interview committee. Several other staff members were suggested and discussed as possible candidates. Ms. Vallejo shared about the great turnout for Kinder graduation. Ms. Alvarez shared how impressed she was with the turnout for the registration fair. Ms. Bramley shared a thank you to Ms. Lee and Ms. Garcia (? , is that right?) for helping with the graduation.

6:17 Ms. Alvarez ended the meeting.