



Governing Council

11 FEBRUARY 2021
6:00pm

Approved 3/10/2021

Location: Zoom call, due to COVID-19 quarantine

7 Norms of Collaborative Work:

- Pause
- Paraphrase
- Pose questions
- Put ideas on the table
- Provide data
- Pay attention to self and others
- Presume positive intentions

Dialogue: Council discussion, gathering of ideas, exploration, and FYI

Discuss: Council discussion & vote

GC Board Members:

- Rick Kisting, Director
- Nicole Boedeker, Teacher Rep
- Joleen Rau, President
- Erin Marriott, Vice President
- Melissa Moser, Secretary
- Abbey Weiss, Treasurer - absent
- Jenny Hammes, Parent Rep
- Lauren McQuiston, Community Rep
- Jorja Gander, Community Rep

AGENDA

I. Reading of the CKCS Mission Statement

- CKCS is a public school option for parents, students and teachers in the Verona Area School District where students develop strong learning skills and a broad base of knowledge through the use of proven educational materials and programs in a safe and structured environment. [Read by Joleen Rau](#)

II. Audience recognition & reminder

III. Dates, announcements and brief agenda items

- Next GC meeting: Mar 10
- Parking lot items
- Discuss previous minutes - Jan - [Approved](#)
- Dialogue PRT update (Sara Herely) - [No update](#)
- Dialogue PASS update (Jennifer Mueller) - [No update](#)

IV. Director's Report (Rick)

Second Semester Update: CKCS Elementary and Middle School students have returned to in-person school two days/week, virtual learning two days/week (with Mondays remaining asynchronous). As both grades 3-5 and middle school students have returned to in-person instruction, new policies with social distancing, masks, etc. are being taught/enforced with students. Students will begin receiving some hot lunch options, with hopes to expand this further to a full hot lunch. Elementary students have settled into a good routine with concurrent in-person/virtual instruction. Middle school students returned to in-person instruction this week. This has gone well so far, and students are doing well with navigating a new building. The Middle School schedule was updated to limit transitions/passing periods. Middle School and Elementary drop off is working well, and CKCS/BRMS will continue to implement tweaks to move traffic through as efficiently as possible. Lunch and recess (social opportunities) are challenging as the school works to keep students distanced and safe.

Equity Work: Additional Professional Development opportunities will be provided to staff this semester. Upcoming topics include understanding and learning our country's history from all perspectives. The upcoming Friday, February 19 district-wide PD day and seven upcoming Mondays smaller PD will focus on this equity work. Other current equity work includes looking at our curriculum for any needed changes.

Budget: Budget Committee met and recognized that we haven't filled planned positions as previously anticipated since the District has frozen funds. Asking for additional EA and Art FTE this year. Additionally asking for funds for workbook fees that are normally charged to families at the start of the year and funds for IXL (or similar program). Also asking the district to

fund a per pupil cost for CKCS math curriculum comparable to per pupil costs at neighborhood schools math curriculum.

Enrollment: Virtual tours have been fantastic. Enrollment numbers are very encouraging as we work to fill our incoming Kindergarten classes and openings at other grade levels.

Hiring: New EA hires Jessica Ammann (certified teacher and daycare experience) and Sadia Asadullah (CKCS parent/preschool and daycare experience). Cortez Rhodes moved into a Special Education Assistant role.

Referendum Updates: Interior signage is completed, high ropes course in the gym has been installed, sound panels will be added to the elementary cafeteria next week.

V. Board topics

- A. Discuss: Family Handbook (Jenny) - will be discussed at next month's meeting
- B. Dialogue: Website Review (Melissa)
Melissa compiled all website recommendations/edits from GC members. Themes that came up during review include: simplifying the parent-led page, adding separate pages for each parent leadership board, moving minutes/agendas/documents for each board to their own designated page, adding new pictures/videos of the school, adding more "Why Choose CKCS?" information to website for prospective families, and improving the searchability of this website when Googling "CKCS Verona" or any variation thereof. Melissa will work with Latisha (CKCS Administrative Assistant) to update the Chain of Command/Contacts document and update on both district and parent-managed websites. Melissa will send VACKCS.com suggestions to PASS (Jen).
- C. Dialogue: Hiring Committee (Erin, Rick)
Educational Assistant: Jessica Ammann applied for an EA position. Jessica is a certified Grades 1-8 teacher and has worked as a lead teacher in multiple daycare settings.
Jessica Ammann was recommended by the Hiring Committee for the open Educational Assistant position. Jenny made a motion to hire Jessica Ammann as an Educational Assistant. Erin seconded the motion. We voted unanimously by email to hire Jessica Ammann.

Educational Assistant: Sadia Asadullah applied for an EA position. Sadia is a current CKCS parent and is currently working in a childcare setting.

Sadia Asadullah was recommended by the Hiring Committee for a second open Educational Assistant position, which recently opened when Cortez Rhodes (CKCS EA) expressed interest and was hired as a fulltime Special Education Assistant at BRMS/CKCS. Nicole made a motion to hire Sadia Asadullah as an Educational Assistant. Jenny seconded the motion. We voted unanimously by email to hire Sadia Asadullah.

- D. Dialogue: Curriculum Committee (Nicole)
The Math Review Committee met in January and will meet again in February. Four 1-hour teacher PD opportunities are scheduled for Math Expressions. Four 30-minute coaching sessions are scheduled for five staff members with Math Expressions publisher. Martha Blevens (resource teacher) will be a partner with math classes (small groups) to focus on key pieces of math as we dig further into the new program. Much of our time in the last meeting was focused on gathering feedback from the parents and teachers on the committee. Teachers feel that the HMH app has been very helpful in our current virtual school year (digital manipulatives and iTools). Math vocabulary has been a huge improvement as students develop their academic language. Students are learning new/more strategies to solve math problems. Students are authentically engaging in math conversations. Parents on the committee feel students are being challenged to explain their thinking more, which shows growth in math skills and understanding. Homework seems to be appropriately challenging and the correct amount for students. Parents are noticing productive struggle with their students, and shared that students are learning how to apply math to their everyday lives. Current obstacles include: backfilling of content gaps (vocabulary, multiple strategies, building blocks of curriculum) and ability-level groupings. This pilot year has not allowed for leveled groupings, and we're looking to include ability-leveled groupings for future years. At our next meeting, the committee will work on finalizing surveys for teachers, students and parents. Classes are expected to complete Volume 1 of their grade's curriculum, which focuses on primary standards. Volume 2 consists of secondary supporting standards and may not be completed each school year.
- E. Dialogue: Outreach Committee (Lauren, Jorja, Rick)
Jenny and Lauren hosted virtual parent tours this year, which went well. Evening sessions were very well attended, and would like to consider these evening tours for future years.

F. Dialogue: Social Media Oversight (Joleen)

As parents post questions (where to go, whom to ask) or complaints on social media, GC members are encouraged to help point parents to the answer/correct contact person to help reduce online speculation. There is some concern that if we take a more official role to respond to social media posts, GC would have a new obligation to respond/police every post. Melissa will be posting on the Parent CKCS Facebook group about upcoming GC meetings.

VI. Future agenda and/or parking lot items

- A. Documenting governing board member definition, lottery preference, & contract compliance

VII. Adjourn

Adjourned to closed session to discuss enrollment preference request.