

**Esperero Canyon Middle School
Site Council Summary Report
School Year 2016-17
Submitted by Mary Setliff, NBCT
Principal**

Site Council Members:

Duane Burghard, Chandra Givens, Amy Mahadevan, Ben Kowalski, Mitch Moffett, Stephen Villaescusa

Parents/Community Members: Duane Burghard, Chandra Givens, Amy Mahadevan, Stephen Villaescusa

ECMS Certified Staff: Kristie Stevens, Ben Kowalski

EC

Administration:

Mary Setliff, Principal

Meeting Dates: 10/18/16, 11/15/16, 1/31/17, 2/28/17

Goals:

- To promote the ongoing improvements in parent/teacher/school communications.
- To give feedback on school initiatives.
- To promote goodwill between the school and community and send a message that Esperero Canyon Middle School is a great place to go to school.
- To establish Esperero Canyon Middle School as a campus where all students feel they belong

Site Council Norms (established by members using CFG protocol)

1. Contribute to substantive conversation. Ask questions, agree and disagree.
2. Respect is key.
3. Keep the conversation constructive. Many times, we will be revising previous work; our goal is to give and receive feedback that will advance this work.
4. Monitor your own airtime.
5. Debrief at the end.

Summary of Site Council Meetings: Topics

1. Promotion of Esperero:

The Site Council focused again in 2016-17 on Year 3 of Promotion of Esperero Canyon Middle School.

Site Council Recommendations: We continued our focus on marketing as a year round activity. We reviewed the tour schedule and the parents gave feedback on the vacation and break times for other school districts, looking them up on various websites and targeting dates to have tours where both students and parents can attend. Parents on the Council also offered to come for the school open houses to speak about their experiences. Two parents suggested to making the lobby a warmer and more welcoming place.

The Site Council continued to urge open house nights that focus on programmatic features that our competition schools lack: everyday fine arts, PE/Health, and Spanish.

Mrs. Stevens took on the posting to Facebook assignment and made sure that we posted our highlights on Facebook (our holiday fundraising) as well as Student Council Activities that show how engaged our students are in helping the community.

2. School Improvement: our Site Council is very positive about our efforts and thought that our plans were, again, ambitious and worthwhile. There was a lot of positive feedback regarding the DLP: Creativity and Innovation as well as the use of Quaglia Student Voice Survey.

Site Council Recommendations: The Council had positive things to say about our school's improvement plan. They asked if we could make it more student and parent friendly. We are working on how to provide a Mindsets training to parents through our CTI, Melissa Hall for the 2017-18 School Year.

3. Parent Conferences: Our Site Council parents continue to be very positive about the way we do parent/teacher conferences. We did have some feedback regarding the lack of availability of conference slots if parents did not sign up quickly.

Site Council Recommendations: The Council suggested some modifications for the conferences. A couple of them had experienced student-led conferences and felt that it was too ambitious an undertaking and that augmenting the student conferences with 1 or 2 artifacts and allowing and encouraging students to attend with their parents is a better fix. The parents on the council spoke highly of our student

reflection sheets. They stated that they felt that it was a great way to help kids reflect on their progress. One parent stated that it was a lot like the real world of work and that having to reflect on self-efficacy is a real-world skill.

4. Parent Communication: We have taken the Site Council's advice and eliminated our huge monthly newsletter. We have replaced it with the Eagle Express. We have also implemented a Homework Hotline and the Council gave it rave reviews. Parents stated that the Hotline was accessible and made their lives easier. They commented that it completely eliminated the multi-step process of visiting each teacher's website.

5. Improvements to physical campus of Esperero: the efforts of our Site Council to install a gate (generously donated by a council member) adjacent to the soccer field that would allow access to the students living in neighborhoods behind Esperero (reducing their walk by a mile or more) did not succeed due to a private property issue. The "Back Gate Project" was put aside. We then had a proposal to install a patio and hang the tiles made by our art students. The work was done by Boy Scout Troop 141, supervised by an Eagle Scout Candidate.

Site Council Recommendations: Troop 141 is efficacious and their Scout Master and troop members would like to find more projects at EC. The Site Council was very pleased at the result of the sculpture garden and thought it was an addition to the Esperero Campus that incorporated student voice (each tile has a word that represents something the students value). More tiles will be made and hung next year.

5. ECMS Parent Survey 2014-15 comparison to 2015-16

Q 14. The data from the 2015-16 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 97% of parents agree or strongly agree that they can easily access [their] child's account (+7% from 2014-15).

The data from the 2016-17 ECMS Parent Survey show that 96% of our parents agree or strongly agree that they can easily access [their} child's account.

Implication: we are maintaining easy access for parents.

Q 15. The data from the 2015-16 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 81% of parents agree or strongly agree that [their] child's teachers' websites are easy to navigate (+12% from 2014-15).

The data from the 2016-17 ECMS Parent Survey show that 72% of parents agree of strongly agree that [their] child's teachers' websites are easy to navigate (-9% from 2015-16.

Implication: updating and maintaining teacher websites will be a major focus in the 2017-18 year.

Q 16. The data from the 2015-16 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 81% of parents agree or strongly agree that [their] child's teachers' websites are easy to navigate (+12% from 2014-15).

The data from the 2016-17 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 71% of parents agree or strongly agree that [their] child's teachers' websites are easy to navigate (-10% from 2015-16).

Implication: an additional 10% of our parents are telling us that are struggling with navigating websites. We need to identify parents who are having trouble with the websites early in the year and offer them training and additional resources.

Q 17. The data from the 2015-16 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 72% of parents agree or strongly agree that teachers update their online grade books on a regular basis (at least every 2 weeks) to reflect an accurate picture of my child's current academic performance (+8% from 2014-15).

The data from the 2016-12 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 65% of parents agree or strongly agree that teachers update their online grade books on a regular basis (at least every 2 weeks) to reflect an accurate picture of my child's current academic performance -7 from 2015-16).

Implications: this is a decline from last year. However, in the administration's frequent monitoring of gradebooks, the majority of teachers at Esperero do post regularly. We do have a very small number of teachers who struggle to post in a timely manner. We will provide those teachers with support and encouragement.

Q 18. The data from the 2015-16 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 63% of parents agree or strongly agree that teachers and other staff respond to my concerns and request for information in a timely manner (+5% from 2014-15).

The data from the 2016-17 ECMS Parent Survey shows that 74% of parents agree or strongly agree that teachers and other staff respond to my concerns and request for information in a timely manner (+11% from 2016-17).

Implication: this has been a focus of this year. We feel that the implementation of Homework Hotline and the overwhelmingly positive response has contributed to this increase.

Survey Results: We will bring forward the survey results to next year's Site Council and choose items to address. ECMS administration will also give survey feedback to teachers.