



Aurum Preparatory Academy

Minutes

Monthly Academic Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday November 11, 2020 at 5:00 PM

Committee Members Present

A. Benedetto (remote), D. Hardin (remote), M. Knutson (remote)

Committee Members Absent

None

Guests Present

C. Davis (remote), S. Samanth (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Benedetto called a meeting of the Academic Committee of Aurum Preparatory Academy to order on Wednesday Nov 11, 2020 at 5:07 PM.

II. Academic

A. Update on Q2 progress so far

Sorry (not Q2, just the final moments of Trimester 1)

Bubble student update: last time we were at 50% failure rate. Major barrier was work completion. After last meeting we did a bunch of things. Intentionality of data was huge. Teachers knowing the types of assignments, etc. was big. Then we had remediation days so students were able to get targeted help.

We are probably around 30-40% failure rate. There has been significant progress. Creighton's idea of having a project for credit recovery was great. But teachers felt that it was too much with grades, week without walls, etc. So instead, teachers have planned projects for Week Without Walls so that it is 10% of the grade, but can only help them. Students will still be in groups, but will be working on individual components. So we had to kick back end of T1 because of grading the WWW projects, but we will see what happens.

Will be messaging to students on Friday. Getting kids ready for Student-led Conferences.

Should we think about giving them a grade/credit for SLC's in the future?

B. Student Survey Review and Action Steps to get Student Voice

So we are discussing whether to use Survey Monkey or Google forms.

Maggie - wanted to be able to disaggregate by grade so we can see any differences between grades Based 1/2 of the questions on discussion we had last time in Committee Meeting - what is in the way? Content? Technology? What are the pain points for students?

David - no more than 10 questions, and would like to have the ability to have open-ended questions.

Are questions framed in a way that students will understand and are the answers framed in such a way that will give us information that we are looking for?

What is your favorite class? Why?

Abby - I am just owning that I brought this up and want to bring us back to the reason we wanted to survey the students and it was about work completion. Should we simplify this and only ask what is getting in the way of students completing work

Abby - should we ask them if they think the work that teachers assign is actually helping them to learn?

Creighton - should we ask them to tell us how to make online learning more engaging?

Let's get to the essence of what questions we want and then wordsmith asynchronously.

Abby & Creighton will wordsmith and then put them into google form and send to David/Swati.

C. Action Steps/Support from Committee

December meeting:

1. Opening of School (hybrid model) considerations
2. Support for high school selection/application process
 - Carolyn Grammstorf and James to attend?

D. Update on recruitment & enrollment

Swati - Monday will be open enrollment starting with EOC. 2 students have already tried to apply for next year's 6th grade class.

Right now we are at 198. We started at 187.

We are actively looking for a Recruitment Manager.

We sent out a big mailer recently.

Abby - is higher number causing any unintended consequences that are making things hard (like class size, etc.)?

David - We have those kids who are coming in to the building. We started with 12, now we are at like 45 because the kids seem to thrive when they are here.

E. Discuss Opening of School information

no action.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Benedetto