

Polaris at Ebert Collaborative School Committee
Minutes March 7, 2016

1. Call to Order

- Marisa Hudson-Arney - parent (co-chair)
- Jennifer Reynolds - parent
- Michelle Higgins - paraprofessional
- Gail Axt - librarian / teacher
- Catherine Forington - teacher
- Anne Sterrett - principal
- Tana Padilla - parent (safety committee guest)

2. Personnel Updates

- Principal Sterrett let us know that Mr. John Samson will no longer be a paraprofessional this year. There is another paraprofessional who will be taking medical leave. Both of these positions will be advertised and filled temporarily until the end of school.
- We have hired a wonderful kindergarten teacher, Ellen Malan. We have heard a lot of good feedback about her and are excited to see her next year.

3. Safety Issues

- Guest Tana Padilla shared some progress / observations from the parent committee about drop-off and pick-up procedures.
- Principal Sterrett and Tana Padilla guided discussion about safety for our students in coordination from the DPS safety department and the city of Denver.
- Although many good procedures are in place, some of the major concerns include: crossing the street in the middle of the block; traffic moving both directions on Glenarm
- The committee discussed the possibility of creating brochures of our tips to be handed out liberally for a week or so to share new suggestions / procedures as well as clear signage to clearly indicate the school's policy for safe drop-off and pick-up.
- TOP THREE RECOMMENDATIONS: cross at the street corner crosswalk (NOT in the middle of the street); consider turning right on Park Avenue (left turns back things up); continue to pull forward while waiting (avoid parallel parking)

4. Safety - Front Entrance

- District policy is that people don't have access to our students unless they've gone through the office and vetted.
- Do drop-off and pick-up the same way with open access. Once school starts, the gates are all locked and the entrance, with a camera, would be monitored. The options for the new front entrance are:
 1. Park Avenue entrance (currently unused entrance).
 2. Front entrance could be on Glenarm (near Kaleidescope door) but that's far from the office. We could use a kiosk at that door to welcome and check everyone in. School secretaries and para-professionals would take shifts at a kiosk.
 3. Fence the walkway from the blue gate on Tremont to the current front door.
- These options have various price tags associated with them.
- The CSC came to consensus recommending Park Avenue as the entrance.
- Principal Sterrett will follow up on ADA requirements and the option for an intercom at the blue gate for handicapped entrance.

5. Next Meeting - Monday, April 4 (first day back after spring break)

- TBD