

Jefferson Elementary School  
Franklin, MA  
School Council Minutes  
January 10, 2022  
3:15 p.m.

- Meeting held virtually due to recent state-wide increase in COVID-19 cases
- Members in attendance: Sarah Klim (Principal), Jaclyn Newman (Teacher), Kellie Dow (Parent), Officer Dave Gove (Community Member)
- School-Wide Update
  - Principal Klim shared the case numbers within the school community had increased shortly after the Thanksgiving weekend, and continue to be at high levels since the December vacation
  - Staffing is impacted but has been manageable thanks to the flexibility of staff and their willingness to help where needed
  - There have also been a few more subs available recently than earlier in the school year as college students home on break have been signing up to be substitutes
- Reviewing school mission statement and core values
  - Discussion on whether or not to pause this work for this school year
  - Consensus is that this is important work and we want all stakeholders involved, but given what continues to transpire with the COVID-19 pandemic there is concern among School Council members that we will not get the thoughtful feedback we are seeking
  - We will take time this spring to plan a rollout of this work for the fall
  - We do want the mission statement to be shorter and more kid-friendly, and the Council likes the idea of using the word LABS or PAWS (preference for LABS) with each letter standing for a core value; this is what several other schools in the district do including Remington and FHS
- Increasing parent/guardian involvement in the school community
  - Even pre-COVID, there was a decrease in parent/guardians volunteering for PCC, School Council, and in other capacities
  - Discussion of how we could increase this, particularly for next year

- Idea to ensure expectations for various volunteer roles are clearly communicated, including the time commitment
  - Utilize Sign Up Genius more, as this makes it very clear what the commitment is
  - Consider having classroom or grade level representatives to coordinate volunteers for class or school activities
  - Continue discussion with PCC board as well
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- Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.