

Coffee with the Executive Director

English Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2020

Approximately 20 Participants

12:00 p.m. – 12:47 p.m.

Mayara welcomes the parents and staff to the meeting. She announces that we will begin shortly and let the parents know that Mercedes will join us in a few minutes.

Mayara asks if any parent has a question or concern to share with the group.

Lolita asks about the letter that she got about the student's personal belongings pick up. Will that be a whole school event?

Mayara explains that there will be table set up in the cafeteria by grade level. You will not need to get out of your car. You will give your child's name, grade and homeroom teacher and someone will bring the bag to your car. If you need something from the nurse, she will be able to deliver it to your car. The pick up will be two days, Thursday from 3PM-7PM and Friday from 9AM-12PM.

Kim Welsh shares that she will be able to be present at school for the pick- up.

Mayara reminds that tomorrow will be the last day for assigned work on the platforms: Wonders, Maravillas & Mis Matemáticas. The last day of Zoom meetings will be Friday. The next week the teachers will be working with End of Year reports. That last week, teachers will be available through messages in Class Dojo. Next week, the students will only be doing Imagine Learning and Dreambox.

Emily Rega announces that the Specials Team will continue to post every day at 3PM.

Ms. Meri also shares that she will be on this week for the students.

Mayara shares with parents that one thing we would like is their input is to continue to do the Coffee Meeting during the summer. What do you think about that?

Lolita shares that she likes the idea of continuing the Coffee Meeting. She doesn't necessarily think we need to meet weekly, but maybe monthly.

Kristin agrees to meet monthly since there will not be a lot of updates.

Mayara shares words of thanks to the Booster Club for all of their support in school initiatives and events.

Lolita shares that they will place a box in the school for all Academia staff to create a poster for Fifth Graders. The box will be outside with a lid. They can come to the school during the weekend and drop them. If they come during the weekend, they have to make sure to close the gate.

Mayara shares with the parents an idea for the summer. Because of COVID-19, the new parents have not had the opportunity to learn about UNIDOS, tour the school, etc. Would you as parents be willing to make a video sharing what UNIDOS is then we would share the video with the new parents.

This year we will do the workshop that we did for Kindergarten parents last year virtually. The challenge is that not everybody has the technology and we want to think of a way to build a relationship with those families prior to the beginning of the new school year.

Ms. Meri asks if there was a way to help the families with technology prior coming to school because we do not know how the school year will begin. Also, how to work with the students from the Social Emotional perspective and school readiness.

Mayara shares that there will be something that we will be brought to Mercedes and that is something we can plan together offline and include in our presentation for the teachers.

Mayara shares that she will post something more formal about this idea.

Lolita shares that parents will be interested in being part of this idea.

Lolita shares that she talked with people from Scholastics, and they told her to reach back in the month of June.

Mayara answers to let her know about her answer because we will be able to set up tables or something.

Jen shares that last week Mercedes received an email about getting books for school during the summer. We are currently working on having a table for next week with books that parents can take home when they come to pick up the students' personal belongings.

Wilma reminds the parents about the times of Lunch Bunch on Friday.

Mayara shares that in regards to the bags for the personal pick up day. In your bag, you are going to find an envelope with your students' end of the year report. Make sure when you get the bag, you check for the envelope. It shows all of your student's progress across the platforms. There is also a tentative calendar. It may change depending on the guidelines from the state. So make sure you check the bag.

Parent asks if they will be mailed out because her child does not have belongings at the school.

Mayara shares that that is a great question. For parents who do not pick up their belongings, the envelope will be mailed out. But, do not expect to get it by Thursday or Friday of next week. It will be mailed out the week after.

Parent asks if the teachers will be there the day of the pick -up.

Mayara shares that there may be some teachers there, but there will not necessarily be all teachers there.

Jen shares that teachers will be there in the afternoon because they will be dropping off their computers and belongings.

Pat asks about report cards.

Mayara shares that it is not a report card, but g ahead.

Pat asks if the children will have a report card this year?

Mayara shares that the official report card was only done for the first and second trimester. For the period of March 16 until the end of the year, it is a monitoring report for the progress of the students through the digital platforms. It is not a report card that parents are used to getting.

Pat says that she wants to make sure that she understands so she can explain to parents when they call.

Mayara shares that there will not be grades for the last trimester.

Wilma agrees that students must be held harmless.

Mayara welcomes Mercedes.

Mercedes apologizes for her being late as she was doing interviews for the organizations.

Mercedes shares that is your time especially with all that is going on. Our hearts are with the protestors. I know I forwarded information to Wilma and Danielle and I don't know if you had an opportunity to work through those yet, but we are going to be vetting those and posting those on our website. We want you to know that they will be there on our parent portal . There will be ways in which to help you. I know all of our hearts are broken. Just in general there have been years and years of this happening and this on top of the COVID. It has certainly not helped. But I wanted you to know that these are things we are working on, ways in which to help you.

Mercedes shares that she does not know where Pat is because there is a storm coming through at the school.

Pat shares that she doesn't know what is going on because it is getting gray.

Mayara apologizes because she had to turn her camera off because she had her window open and it began pouring.

Mercedes asks what else is going on for folks? Anything else besides what you have already touched on. Is there anything else and stop me Mayara if you have already spoken of it. We are coming to the end of the year and we have a process in place that we will be speaking to shortly. There will be an end of year letter from the Executive Director. You will be reading about our continued effort to stay connected during the summer months with our coffee during the summer month. So we can continue our conversation around the planning for next year. These conversations will help us think it through and bounce ideas off of you to help us think through. We want to stay connected and stay informed as the summer months pass. We want to open with your confidence in us that we will keep your little ones safe and the staff and faculty at large.

Mayara shares that we did kind of go over it and she asked parents what they would like and they shared once a month.

Mercedes shares that that is perfect since it will give us time to work.

Pat has a question for Lolita. You had asked about making signs. Is that for staff or parents?

Lolita shares that they haven't sent the letter out, they will do it today. But it is for everyone. Even if a 5th grader wants to have a neighbor create a sign, create it and come drop it off.

Lolita shares that there is a drop off area under an awning...

Mercedes shares that it is labeled already.

Lolita shares that maybe George, I don't want to sign him up for anything, but someone else will put them up since 5th grade graduation is just for the families but we are asking anyone to make signs and they will handle putting them out.

Pat confirms the storm is coming.

Mayara asks if there are anymore questions. It is 12:4.....

Parent has a question. I know obviously nothing is happening this year but it was said maybe next year. But I want to know about where you are with aging Kindergarten parents up. So I can communicate with my daughter what is going on.

Mayara confirms that you mean the celebration.

Mayara says that she doesn't know if she wants to share what is going on with the bag.

Lolita shares that they were trying to keep it as a surprised. But as far as celebration the kinder teachers have asked that we out together a special treat for the students in their bags. By way of celebration, there will be stickers, and other things...There will also be a invite to take a picture with the sticker and share that...

Mayara shares that if we are able to go back next year there is a plan to formalize the transition for students from Kinder to 1st grade. It is alive in our hearts and minds but it depends on what the state's guidelines are. But it is something we are thinking about.

Parent shares that her daughter heard about her cousins having a celebration so she wanted to share with her.

Mayara tells her to be sure to show her cousins what she will be getting in her bad.

Parent shares that she did order a cap and gown and will be taking pictures. Her daughter asks that she shares that is is purple.

Mayara shares that it is 1245 and we don't want to keep you any longer then we have to. Is every one good? Where are you going, from the kitchen to the living room...the tour...

Mercedes shares an anecdotal story about her husband getting up to go to the kitchen.

Mayara shares an anecdotal story about going to the back yard.

Meri shares that she no longer is meeting her step goal. At school, she met step goals.

Mercedes thanks Meri for the survey which was really well done and we will discuss it.

Mercedes shares that she thinks this is a good break then. Thank you for jumping on. Thank you and continue to be well.

Mercedes closes the meeting at 12:47 p.m.