

Adams Traditional Academy  
Site Council Minutes  
DRAFT / PENDING APPROVAL

Thursday, November 2, 2017

ATA Building A – Science Lab

Prepared by Karen Albers

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**FSAC**

*K-1: Sally Aaronson*

*2-3: Janet Coates*

*4-5: Aaron Daniels*

*6-8: Ben Levandoski*

*Specials: Katherine Lusson*

*Staff: Lainie Rankin*

**Parent Council**

*Karen Albers, Chair, PIN*

*Open, Curriculum*

*Hillary Hancock, Book Report Book Selection*

*Dan Pease, Community Support and  
Development*

*Cindy Richards, Communications*

*Tabitha Wall, PTO*

**Administration**

*Ashley Schorer,*

*Acting Principal*

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attending the meeting was also Lisa McCauley and Stephen Harrison.

○ **Pledge of Allegiance**

○ **Roll Call**

○ **Welcome New Site Council Faculty/Staff Members**

○ **Site Council Chair & Secretary**

At the beginning of each school year, Site Council elects the Site Council Chair and Secretary. Karen Albers volunteered to continue in this capacity.

Mrs. Rankin made a motion to elect Karen Albers as Site Council Chair and Site Council Secretary for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Pease seconded the motion.

Vote: Consensus

○ **Site Council Handbooks**

Distribute & Review

○ **Emergency Items:** There are no emergency items to discuss at this time.

○ **Action Items:**

- Approval of Site Council Meeting Minutes for May 5, 2017

Mrs. Wall made a motion to approve the Site Council Meeting Minutes for May 5, 2018

Mr. Pease seconded the motion.

Vote: Consensus

- Allowing Mechanical Pencils for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

- *This issue was discussed at FSAC.*

- *Mr. Levandoski explained that this issue was brought forth by Mrs. Larance. The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade team discussed it and was in agreement that some students prefer a sharper pencil and agreed it would be good to have the option of mechanical pencils.*

- *Mr. Daniels explained that Mrs. Spalding required and preferred a six-sided pencil for Spalding and to help students with the grip.*
- *Mrs. Schorer explained that ATA is a Spalding certified school. The original guidelines in the Teacher Handbook were based on the Spalding program.*
- *Mrs. Lusson noted that the pencil guidelines are in the Teacher Handbook on Page 7, Class Management #2. In that citing, it stated it was the teacher's discretion.*
- *Ms. Aaronson explained that the younger students struggle with using a mechanical pencil and she thought it would be best if the younger students used a traditional six-sided pencil.*
- *Mrs. Schorer explained that in the younger grade levels it is important to work with pencils and learn how to use pressure correctly. Spalding is a focus up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade.*
- *Recommendation for Implementation*  
*It was decided that the Teacher Handbook needed to be more clear and that the entire handbook should be checked for any other references to pencils and mechanical pencils.*

Mr. Daniels made a motion to update the Teacher Handbook to state that Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will use a six-sided #2 pencil, and six-sided pens. 7<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will have the option to use mechanical pencils.

Ms. Aaronson seconded the motion.

Vote: Consensus

- *6:57 Mrs. Richards arrived*
- **Book Report Book Lists**  
Approval of Book Series by the same author.
  - *Mrs. Hancock explained that there is some confusion on the book series. Last year Site Council started approving the Magic Tree House Fact Tracker and Magic Tree House Research Guide. Parents did not understand that there was the original Magic Tree House series that told the story of Jack and Annie's adventures as well as these additional fact/informative books.*
  - *The Magic Tree House Fact Tracker and Magic Tree House Research Guide books were being approved one at a time.*
  - *Can be challenging for parents to understand the differences in the books.*
  - *Our current list does have some series that were on the original lists adopted from Valley Academy school.*
  - *It is difficult to review every book in a series. Each book that is reviewed and recommended for adoption must be reviewed by 3 individuals.*
  - *There have been some cases where a book series has different authors for the books. Within this type of series, there is not always consistency in the quality and style of the writing of the book.*
  - *Ms. Aaronson explained in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade it is much easier to just assign a narrative initially. By the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level, students can start to understand the difference in the types of books.*
  - *Mrs. Schorer explained a book is categorized as an informative narrative when pronouns are used in the content.*

Mr. Pease made a motion if a book series is written by the same author, and three books are reviewed and approved, the series can be added to the list.

Mrs. Wall seconded the motion.

Vote: Consensus

- **Discussion Items:** There are no discussion items at this time.

- **Committee Updates:**

At this time there are no committee updates for the following committees:

- Book Report Book Selection
- Communications
- Community Support and Development
- Curriculum

PIN

The September PIN meeting was cancelled because there were no approved topics. The October PIN meeting was cancelled because there was no Administrator able to attend.

PTO

PTO Report for the first three months of the year is attached. **(PENDING)**

- **Adjournment**

Mrs. Wall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Daniels seconded the motion.

Vote Consensus