

Family & Community Engagement Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 2nd, 3:30-4:30pm

FCE Committee Members In Attendance: Aaron, Sophia, Paul & Laurel

Paul's Updates from MVE:

- **"Screenagers- Growing Up In The Digital Age"** - recap on the event & next steps
 - *Laurel shared that the film screening came about from a January event she hosted on raising teen girls. Most parents wanted more support on how to navigate technology while also raising young teens. Room One hosted, alongside MVSD and we had about 50 people and students show up. We plan to show another documentary in the fall as a follow up. Paul shared that there's limited screen time in MVE, and there is a "No cell phone policy" at MVE. LBHS is currently working on creating a policy for the 2024-25 school year.*
- **Title 1 Update and opportunity for feedback-**
 - *Title 1 is a federal funding source, providing funds to support academic growth including small class sizes, reading support, literacy para staff. We are supposed to ask for feedback from our community, and so we will be reaching out for thoughts. Aaron shared that there are estimated to be 100 homes in the next 3-5 years, so it could increase affordable housing so we may see the % rise of who qualify for free & reduced lunch.*
- **Budget Update-** *Paul shared that the state is not funding adequately for school districts. This year, we are in an unfortunate situation of what we have to reduce. We have to reduce 200-800K from next year's budget. Insurance has increased 75% due to a variety of factors. We are looking at how we can make reductions that are furthest from the classroom. Our school budget is 75% state dollars. Staff has been working together to remind ourselves what is the core of what we do and what can we reduce. We can't share what's possibly getting cut next year at this point, but will have an update for the community in the coming weeks.*
 - *Sophia was curious if MVSD is interested in any outside organizations offering support in terms of fundraising. Possibly a "Bite of the Methow" type event to raise money? We will keep thinking of how the community can get involved for support.*

Looking Ahead:

- **Teacher Appreciation Week- May 6-10th-** we will share on social media
- **Author Visit on May 10-** partner with Methow Arts
- **Portfolio Shares-** Invite all families to show the work throughout the year (end of year, date TBD)
- **5th Grade Exhibition-** May 29th
- **5th Grade Send off Assembly-** last day of school

- **LBHS Orientation-** for parents on programs and various graduation requirements (Spring 2024) 5th graders tour the 6th grade classrooms and LBHS in the spring. August is open house/parent orientation & registration period.

SHAC:

Student Health Advisory Committee- Email atornberg@methow.org if interested in participating

7 Subcommittee's were formed

- Health & Well-being
- Social Services
- Nutrition
- Emergency Preparedness
- Physical Education/Activities/Athletics
- Early Learning/Childcare Initiatives
- Community Engagement

Things for our committee to consider:

1. What is going well in this area?
2. What services already exist? Do they need to be expanded/modified?
3. How does this service/opportunity get communicated, accessed, does it need to be improved?
4. What are the subcommittee's top areas to address/expand/clarify?
5. What would you like our administration and School Board to be aware of that you are or will be working on into the 2024-25 school year?
 - Orientation process/welcome new families- stronger school onboarding/introduction practices (MVE Specific)- someone from the FCE committee will create packets for new families- meet in June to make the packets for sept.
 - Stronger social media presence/online communications- Sophia and Laurel will help make this happen. Including Instagram
 - Visibility of what this awesome group does- amplify the work into the community- how to beyond MVE emails?
 - After school clubs- are an outcome of the FCE committee- ran by parents and community members, business owners,
 - Monthly emails that include volunteer opportunities in Paul's email
 - Taste of the Valley

Community Partner Updates:

Sophia shared that elections will be open for positions on the PTA. Reach out to Sophia for more information: The Methow Valley Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) seeks nominations for officer positions, including President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers must have been a member of any local PTA group for at least 15 days preceding elections, which will be held in June. They also must be dedicated to upholding PTA's mission of improving family, student, teacher, and school board relationships and the quality of education; promoting

dialogue, and enhancing school experiences for students. To learn more about the officer positions and to nominate officers, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/mvptaofficers>.

Next Meeting: September 2024 (date TBD)-Laurel to create a survey monkey and email FCE members to gauge best time of day, possibly moving these meetings to the morning to increase MVE staff attendance.