

ACA SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting # 3 (School Year 2018-2019)

Friday, November 30, 2018

Attendance: Irfan Choudhery, Asma Hussain, Bilal Choudhery, Samah Bkhaitan, Dalal Jawad, Nisreen Abdeljaber, Fozia Basharat, Christine Choudhery, Ahlam Samad, Tammy Mai, Jamil Aboud, Dr. S. Tomeh, Rheem Kabbani, Patrick Fitzpatrick, Mariam Ewais and Derrick Peat.

Absentees: Debora Kamel

Brother Irfan performed the opening Dua.

General Updates:

- Reviewed minutes from the previous meeting.
- A correction was indicated: missed Mariam Ewais name from the list of attendees
- Irfan Choudhery introduced Sister Rawia 's as the representative of Grade 1-8- teachers.
- Irfan Choudhery also introduced Brother Shaun Rana as the representative for Montessori parents.

PTA Update:

- Successful picnic conducted, overall positive feedback from parents and staff.
- Thanks to Brother Patrick for helping the great, major success!
- Dr. Tomeh shared the concern of one of the parent in relation to lack of supervision at the picnic for children. It was clarified that being a public event, all families were responsible for their own kids.

Sports Update:

- Hosted two away games (won the first game, lost the second game).
- New parent volunteer coach starting next week.
- Not enough interest this year for chess tournament.

Principal's Update:

- Proceeding towards the end of the first semester
- Finalizing mid-term schedule to be shared over the next few weeks
- Tax Festival coming up
- Imam visiting and meeting with students on 11th and 12th of December, 2018.
- Parking lot structure update is going to take place during the early release days immediately before the break from December 16th to Jan 4th, 2019. This is a major overall an improvement to the parking lot with significant impact on entrance and exit for the parents.

Detention Policy:

Detailed discussion took place at the various aspects of the proposed detention policy. Based on the feedback provided in the last meeting and through email by various members, Irfan Choudhery provided a summary of proposed changes. Two different handouts were provided to the Council members for review:

1. Comments and feedback review: summary of feedback by various members
2. Detention Policy Draft

Some of the topics discussed:

Following is the list of some of the topics discussed during the meeting:

- Page 3, line 6: "Food in Class: Display of food in the classroom, eating or drinking anything other than water anywhere on the campus except in the cafeteria will result in 1 detention."
- Page 3, lines 12-14: "Hallway Loitering: The unsupervised presence of a student in the hallway after the ringing of the second bell and without a pass. Hallway and Classroom loitering will result in 1 detention."
- Page 4, lines 13-14: Classroom Loitering: The presence of any student in a classroom without adult supervision." and page 4, item #7- "Any student found loitering in the school will receive one detention."
- Page 4, Item # 2 and 3: Three Tardies will equal into one detention.
- Page 2: Mission Statement
- Page 2: Introduction
- Page 5: The Detention policy is for Elementary, Middle and High School students.

Summary of Changes:

Following is a list of the most significant changes proposed to the policy

1. Mission Statement: **Updated, see below**
The mission of the Detention Program is to create a sense of importance for the rules and expectations that govern the students at Arizona Cultural Academy. Through the collaborative effort of staff, parents, and students we will bring about improved conduct.
2. Introduction: **Updated, see below**
The purpose of the Arizona Cultural Academy Detention Policy is to encourage appropriate behavior. The detention policy is devised as a means to address issues that are most disruptive to the teaching and learning environment. For a more detailed list of behaviors that may result in detentions, please refer to the code of conduct in the parent teacher handbook (add hyperlink).
3. Food in Class: Eating or drinking anything other than water in the classroom, **following the currently school policy. Violating the school policy about eating and drinking in class will result in 1 detention. Add the link to the policy.**

4. Hallway Loitering: The unsupervised presence of a student in the hallway after the ringing of the second bell and without a pass. Hallway and Classroom loitering **may** result in 1 detention.
Updated
5. Classroom Loitering: The presence of any student in a classroom without adult supervision." and page 4, item #7 ". Any student found loitering in the school **may** receive one detention." –
Updated
6. Tardies: **Six** Tardies will equal into one detention. **Updated**
7. Applicability: Detention policy is applicable for Grades 1-12. **Updated**
8. All detentions will be filed in the office and kept as a record. Detention records may affect a student's participation in extracurricular activities such as sports, school-trips, in-school events, etc. **Updated**

Action Item:

Irfan Choudhery to send summary of changes to Brother Jamil, in order to incorporate into the proposed policy. The updated policy will be used for voting purposes.

- Next Council meeting will be conducted on December 12, 2018.
- Closing Dua was made by Brother Patrick.