

## Family Crew Organization Meeting Minutes

DATE: April 1, 2022

TIME: 9:00

LOCATION: GreenWood Auditorium & Zoom

Chair person: Kara Lyon

Administrator: Tracey Nelsen

Greeting: Share with another parent if you are excited about Spring Break and why! **There is no right or wrong way to feel! As parents, you might have mixed feelings about your kids being home for Spring Break. And that's ok :)**

**Please remember to have your child read over the break!**

Reading: "Nevertheless, no school can work well for children if parents and teachers do not act in partnership on behalf of the children's best interests. Parents have every right to understand what is happening to their children at school, and teachers have the responsibility to share that information without prejudicial judgment.... Such communication, which can only be in a child's interest, is not possible without mutual trust between parent and teacher." - Dorothy H Cohen

Meeting Objective: We are updating our parent procedures here at GreenWood. Today, our objective is to have a great discussion about what is important to you in your child's education and overall experience here at GreenWood.

### Agenda Items:

1. Discuss changes and updates to the parent procedures at GreenWood

**Mrs Nelsen showed parents where to find the "Parent Involvement Policy". As a school, we are required to hold a meeting once per year to discuss the policy. The policy is found following these steps:**

**Go to : <https://www.greenwoodcharter.org/parent-helps>**

**Governance, then to School Policies (here you will find MANY useful school policies that as a parent, you should know about!)**

**Scroll down and click on **Parent Involvement Policy****

Mrs. Nelsen also discussed the **Grow GREENments policy**.


Mrs. Nelsen led a discussion on many important things we are seeing right now. Here are some bullet points from our conversation:

- We would like to see parents engaging other parents! Come volunteer—meet other parents—become friends—invite other parents of GreenWood to come volunteer, too! This is why we started the Park Playdates every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month! Come and meet other parents!!
- Administration and teachers here have policies in place to have open communication with parents. These look like SLC's, Family Activities, Monthly Parent (FCO) Meetings, Fieldwork opportunities, volunteer opportunities, emailing between teachers/parents, scheduled one-on-one meetings between teachers/parents when needed.
- What are the barriers and roadblocks that are keeping parents from volunteering? (some barriers mentioned were: some activities have been disorganized; too many volunteers show up/not enough volunteers show up; some parents are single parents or working parents or have other scheduling conflicts that make it difficult to volunteer during school hours). We understand that sometimes these barriers are out of our control to fix, but if there is something we can do to fix it, we would like to! But first we have to know about it! And then when we know about, we appreciate your patience as we figure it out and practice at getting better at these things on our end :)
- We would like to know if there are more partnerships we can build in our community. Please let us know if you have any suggestions!
- How can we get more parents to attend our parent meeting? These really are the best way to give Mrs. Nelsen direct feedback and have a group discussion! What are the barriers here? Is it the time? Would it help to have a Zoom only evening meeting as well as the in-person morning meetings? Is there a different time other than 9:00 that would work better? One important shift we are making with these meetings is to have them be less about what you can do for us and more about what we can do for you and your child. PLEASE, we would LOVE your feedback! Thank you!!

Important Upcoming Event: **Family Earth Day Activity. Friday April 22 @ 5:00-8:00**

**PM.** Besides being a fun Family Night, this is also the Celebration of Learning for all of the Specials Teachers. Grades K-5 will be singing a special song they have been preparing for you & the other Specials Teachers all have fun activities planned, as well! Please bring the whole family for a fun night!

Mindfulness Moment: Listen to the song “Colors” by Kira Willey

 Kira Willey - Colors (Lyrics)

I have been teaching this song in my music classes. We discuss how sometimes it is easier to describe how we are feeling when we say a color. We also discuss how our colors can change through the day, and that we have the power to do that!

Next Meeting Date: Friday, May 6 @ 9:00 a.m.