Gmail

Evan Briggs <evanybriggs@gmail.com>

Fwd: Confusion on Tuesday's Special Site Council Meeting

Evan Briggs <evanybriggs@gmail.com> Tue, May 29, 2018 at 12:57 PM
To: John Miner <jminer@seattleschools.org>, "Joung, Helen H" <hhjoung@seattleschools.org>
Cc: Christina Ellis <penellis@gmail.com>, Jonathan Gasbar <jonathan.gasbar@highlineschools.org>

This is an email sent by Mark Fung to the parents in his class. This line is blatantly false:

> *Each year I have been here, there has been a notice sent out from the chair to the general site council members announcing that the positions are near the end of their 1-year term and they are looking for replacements.*

John- you know full well that all prior Chairs have served for 2 or 3 years. That is the norm. Chairs have absolutely not been sending out announcements that their terms were up after one year. Furthermore, I did send out a list of site council vacancies. As for chairs of other committees, they stay on until they are ready to step down and then ask for a replacement. That is how it has always worked in the past. We all know this.

Mark is blatantly spreading misinformation that serves his agenda to the parent community.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From [redacted]
Date: Tue, May 29, 2018 at 8:21 AM
Subject: Fwd: Confusion on Tuesday's Special Site Council Meeting
To: evanybriggs@gmail.com

[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Fung, Mark T" <mtfung@seattleschools.org>
> **Date:** May 28, 2018 at 10:28:12 PM PDT
> [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Subject: Confusion on Tuesday's Special Site Council Meeting

Hello Families,

Tomorrow, Tuesday 5/28 at 7 PM, there is a special Site Council meeting. In talking to parents, it seems there is some confusion as to why this meeting is being called. Unfortunately, there is no published agenda. I will forward one as soon as I see one.

If you are confused about what is going on or you want to ensure you know the direction that Thornton Creek and of our Site Council are headed, please make time to attend the special meeting. If your are hearing conflicting information from multiple sources on what is happening with Site Council, make sure to attend so you can hear information from the primary soures. Please also attend if you are interested in becoming an officer of Site Council.

This meeting is going to clear up 2 items. 1) discuss election process and 2) discuss why an election and how we got here.

In the years that I have been at Thornton Creek as a parent and a staff member, I have never seen an election. I have asked other staff how long it has been since an election has occurred and no one can recall an election. Hence the special meeting. Usually, Site Council officer transfers are coordinated through a request for replacement, then someone volunteers and it culminates in a nomination. Each year I have been here, there has been a notice sent out from the chair to the general site council members announcing that the positions are near the end of their 1-year term and they are looking for replacements. Some years there is a replacement who steps forward, some years there is no one who steps forward and the chair has to continue another 1-year term in their current role. This year has not quite followed this path. The meeting on Tuesday is set up to discuss the issues of why an election would be conducted this year and a proposal for the process of an election (because, again, this is kind of uncharted territory).

As Site Council is made up of our families and friends, this is a sensitive issue. Please considering attending so we can openly discuss the above meeting items and move forward as a united group. I agree with John Miner and Jon Gaspar that face-to-face and open discussions will help our communities members be informed as a whole and work together to solve our issues.

Here is a link to the bylaws Parent Group Bylaws . If you are attending the meeting, I encourage you to read the bylaws so you can make an informed decision at the meeting.
Article 5 states how a special meeting is called and what business can be transacted.
Article 6 states the terms of officers, election of officers, and the nomination process.
Feel free to read the entire document.

This may seem like a messy and politically charged meeting, but as a member of this community that supports your child's educational environment, I hope to see you in attendance.

Mark Fung
3rd Grade Teacher
Thornton Creek Elementary School

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