

Central Parents Council

Minutes from January 8, 2015

In Attendance: Lolita Reichbach, Beth Packert, Sarah Trust, Nancy Israeli, Stephanie DiNozzi, Melissa Marasciullo, Augusta Reese Donohue, Christina Bruderman, Terri Coyle, Ingrid Wright, Jill DeMarco, Jenean Ketterer, Nicole Prizzi, Gloria Godsell, Pamela Sherlock, Pamela Hansen, Amy Brogan, Dianne Breitstone, Steph Pink, Fran Conte, Terri Coyle, Patricia Hammond, Andrea Buafiglio, Jennifer Leavy, Colleen Haskell, Jill DeMarco, Karen Spehler, M. Marasciullo, Janice Elkin, Christina Goetjen

Absent: Wendi DeSchutter, Ginette Reynolds, Kristin Robillard, Nicole Pultz, Karen Walter, Anne Scott, Tim Ruocco, Robert Taglich, Janna DeRisi, Kaitlin Eisenegger, Heather Savarese, Charisse Winthrop, Helen Daly, Angela Engel, Lauryl Koke, Anne Gummersell

CPC Business

Beth Packert, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:10. Beth led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sarah Trust, Secretary, asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November, 2014 meeting. Lolita Reichbach made motion to approve, Augusta Reese Donohue seconded. The minutes were approved.

Beth Packert discussed the parties involved in deciding the future of education including charter schools, unions, parents, teachers, testing companies. We need to determine how we want to be involved in local education.

Nancy Israeli, CFA president noted that PTA groups in LI (mostly Nassau) are getting together in one voice and are providing emailed information and podcasts to PTA presidents. We need to become more involved with state legislators. Pam Hansen volunteered to become involved.

Beth Packert asked whether we are going to react or be a part of the conversation.

Status and Resolution Report

Beth Packert, Chairperson, gave the report in the VP's absence. She stated that the Board of Education will be voting on the calendar on Tuesday, January 13 at 8pm and that the draft states that we will be going back before Labor Day. There were questions and comments regarding this calendar change.

The Board of Ed will have their Budget Forum meeting on January 28th at 7:30.

Dr. Wilansky's book chats will be starting soon and all schools will be involved so parents can share their insights over the many years.

Parent Issues included sports practices being scheduled in breaks and that there is not an easy way out of the problem given requirements for practice before playing in tournaments.

There have been a few instances of "sexting" in the junior high. Colleen Haskell stated that there should be consequences for that at the high school. Nancy Israeli pointed out that there is a legal problem of proof for the school. Gussie Donohue stated that there is a lack of jurisdiction for activities outside of school. The schools generally start the discussion about tech safety in 4-6

grades. Mrs. Parent and Mr. Homer will attend our next meeting to discuss this issue amongst others.

School Reports

LH: Gussie Donohue gave the report. See attached notes. Their PTA meeting will be next Thursday where Terri Coyle will be giving a first aid presentation. All are welcome.

WS: Ingrid Wright gave the report. See attached notes. Mrs. Parent is coming to talk about the health curriculum.

CFA: Nancy Israeli gave the report. See attached notes. The jr. high dance is coming up, it's from 7-9:30. Next Tuesday, Jane Gallum will discuss bringing the joy back to teens. The Jr. High will be having their winter concert. Andrew Rosenberg, the new guidance counselor, started on Monday. He will speak at the CFA in February. He will do a financial aid meeting at the high school tonight.

CSH Educational Foundation: Stephanie DiNozzi gave the report. She thanked everyone for their donations. Janna DeRisi is chairing their first POP (power of partnership) event to be held on March 13th at the Founders' Room at the Paramount.

Arts Booster: Pamela Sherlock gave the report. Thank you to the chamber chorus for their holiday songs. All state singers were awarded. How to Succeed in Business without even Trying will be February 6,7,8.

Cultural Arts: At Westside Cliff Mendolsohn is doing the Day in Clay with the 6th Grade and Pottery Wheel with the 5th Grade. Ozze- skype with class of 5th Graders.

Seahawks Booster: Pam Hansen gave the report. May 2nd is the Casino Night, Jen Reim is chairing the event. June 9 is the Varsity Awards dinner, which Kim Carlin is chairing. The Seahawks Booster Sports Camp information is online at seahawkssportscamps.com. It was a big success last year making \$60,000. Hoping to make \$100,000 this year. They have added fencing and crew as new options and there are new little kid friendly camps, including t-ball, cheerleading and gymnastics.

SEPTA: Homework Club has started.

Steve Pinto and Diane Scinta announced that Wednesday, January 28th is Start the Conversation – Save a Life with Chris Homer moderating a discussion about substance abuse. Steve Pinto is from the Life Center in Huntington, which works closely with the district and wants to focus on prevention.

New Business

None

Guest Speakers

John Contess, the director of technology reported on the new Learning Management Systems that they are looking into for the school. We currently have a student system (the Parent Portal) where they keep track of students.

Course Management systems is where the actual content of a course resides. You can see

everything happening in the course, teachers can check progress, tailor lessons to individual students, exams can be created from the system. Allows for good data mining for individual needs. There can also be integrated standards by noting what is following Common Core and what is not. Teachers can also see the amount of time that is spent on a given piece of work. The subscriptions we currently have won't change, they would be integrated into the system.

The Ed Tech Showcase is on April 20th at 7pm in the high school gym.

Dr. Wilansky reminded everyone of the budget planning meeting on 1/27. Dr. Bernhard will present on legislation that affects the budget. Dr. Wilansky discussed the passing of Dr. James Robins, VP of the CSH Board of Ed. CPC sent their condolences to his family.

Motion was made to adjourn by Nancy Israeli and seconded by Ingrid Wright. **The meeting was adjourned at 10:35.**