

Central Parent Council

Minutes from March 6, 2014

In Attendance: H. Daly, B. Packert, B. Callaghan, C. Costa, N. Israeli, L. Squicciarini, K. Walter, D. Tsotsos, A. Reese, T. Coyle, M. Strunk, L. Reichbach, J. Emanuel, D. Lynch, M. Marascuillo, K. Robillard, C. Haskell, J. DeMarco, N. Pultz, Robin Maney (for G. Bordeman), L. Riffaud

Absent: T. Ruocco, M. Hooks, W. Deschutter, K. Ferrandino, C. Walkin, G. Reynolds, C. Hodgsons, A. Mitchell, L. Koke, C. Goetjen, P. Guida May, T. Ruocco, R. Taglich, G. Cimino

CPC Business

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 by H. Daly. H. Daly led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. A. Reese motioned to approve the minutes and L. Squicciarini seconded.

H. Daly made opening remarks to the audience. Explained about a group of parents who meet regarding the Common Core and the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA). Left a sample of 5 letters that are on the table in the back of the room speaking out about the GEA. Money has not been returned to our school that was supposed to be. The district is funding mandates with taxpayers money and if the GEA was eliminated our school would get some money back. The GEA reduces the amount of aid to schools to distribute to poorer districts. Not sure how much it affected us.

Need to send the letters before the end of March.

Helen is writing letters specific to CSH. It is helpful to our district and will help other districts too.

Second letter is from Superintendents regarding ELA and Math Common Core. The students were tested without them being vetted. The letter is talking about slowing down the implementation of the Common Core. The current implementation must be revamped because students are being tested on materials not yet taught. Students were not prepared so still not a correct reflection.

There is a need to be more rigorous but the current structure is detrimental. Elected officials speaking out is necessary and slowing down will be effective.

Secretary Claire Costa discussed the process of how to fill the CPC Board next year and asked the board to start working on next years replacements.

Vice Chair Beth Packert discussed S&R report. Carbon Monoxide detectors may be mandated. In regards to improvements in Mental Health services at the HS, Dr. Wilanski is making a recommendation of a model instead of a person.

Treasurer Barbara Callaghan reported that CPC is on budget. No changes this month, no new bills.

School Reports

LHSPTG: see monthly notes. Cyber Bullying presentation and Magic Night were rescheduled. Sixth grade play is coming up next week. Had veggie day. The students eat so many more vegetables this way.

Shed the Meds Program: District office 4/26 from 11-1. There will be 2 sheriffs. Will be collecting all medications including expired medications – not necessarily prescription as well as veterinary meds. Very Important!

GPFA: see monthly notes. In the March meeting Mrs. Herschlein discussed homework - had a staff meeting regarding homework. Also, had a field trip to the new “Book Nook”. The kids have started using it. Many new puzzles and books. The kids love it.

Field trip to Lloyd Harbor for play. Biscuit author coming 4/1. Also, Plant sale coming!

CFA: see monthly notes. Yankee Doodle Circus was a great success – 600 + people attended. It was profitable too! Literary luncheon coming up 3/26 – Josh Marshall political blogger is the speaker. He gets more hits than the WSJ.

Code of Conduct meeting coming up. NYSSMA 3/21. Dr. Marullo in music department will be taking volunteers to help for community service. Jr. High Play – 42nd Street 3/28-30. Next CFA meeting 4/1 – Shed the meds material will be available.

WSS: see monthly notes. Had Daddy and Me event. Made Valentines for Veterans – went to the VA hospital in Northport. Talent show and ice cream social were excellent! Had a 6th grade get together at United Skates 3/16.

CA: see monthly notes. Heritage Blues Trio from Lincoln Center for 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades at LH. New American Immigrants for 5th grade. Cliff Mendelson going to LH in April (his pottery made with HS students will be raffled at the Literary Luncheon).

Jr/Sr High – 8th grade Journey from the Dust artist from Lincoln Center and Into the Silence (re : Japanese Internment).

HS – Street Corner Symphony. It was a huge success. The kids were on stage.

Former teacher Howard Nepo came to the AP art class to talk about Renaissance artists.

Seahawks Booster: Night at the Races 3/22 at the Huntington Yacht Club.

Summer Camp website launched. Camp led by varsity coaches and athletes. It will be 3 hours a day – well priced.

On line clothing store will launch on day of Code of Conduct meeting.

Brick sale ongoing. Order by June 1st. Seahawks website has order form.

LAX teams go on overnight trips so having a talent show to raise money.

4/1 – scholarship applications go out - \$2000 for a male and a female.

Some vacancies to fill on Seahawks Booster Club. Need liaisons from LH and WSS. Send e-mail to Tim if interested.

FOCUS: Attended Northport/E.Northport presentation for younger kids regarding drugs.

FOCUS supports Start the Conversation. SCOPE at WSS regarding Cyber Bullying – presenting for 4th grade as well. Working on transition meetings.

Arts Booster: see monthly notes. Mardi Gras attendance was very poor. Arts Booster supports students interested in the arts – art, music, drama. Collecting shoes at the HS, WSS, and LH (GH asked to be added as well) for the month of March. Shoes are cleaned and sold. Arts Booster will

be paid by the weight donated. WSS said they do sneaker recycling so they suggested that those sneakers can be added to the Arts Booster bins.

New Business

Lori Kerry spoke to the audience about her Non-Profit called Connect the Dots. They partner with tech companies. Teachers and students teach what they learn at the programs. Levittown is having a 5 day program on 21st Century Workforce schools. YAMMER is an online social experience for 13-18 year olds which has industry experts come in and answer questions.

Speakers

Helen Crossen – Cold Spring Harbor Library. Helen explained all the ways the library can be accessible to the public – Facebook, Twitter, e-mail and always looking for more ways. Over 7000 people come in every month. There are afterschool book clubs and many other activities. They can even help you get e-books onto your devices. Library is completely WIFI accessible. Students can get their school work at the library and will be able to print soon. Librarians can help students with what is good information on the computer. They can help build research list. Library Vote and Trustee Election 4/8 from 9:30am -9pm.

Also having Amnesty Day.

“Start the Conversation...Save a Life” – 3/27. Registration on Library Website.

Mrs. Herschlein, Principal Goosehill Primary School

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) – keeping it alive using the Mood Meter. Really critical for their development. Connect a lot of different areas in life and school to it.

Spirit Day assembly every month.

Encourage standing up for things you believe in using board games, dealing with losing, taking turns.

Indoor reading space has been a great success.

Teachers College training for teachers: reading comprehension, inferring motivation, feelings (using SEL).

ESpark has a feeling question – kids can report how they are feeling and teachers have access to it.

Weave studying other cultures into SEL – may be different but doing the same thing.

100th Day Celebration- learned other songs in different languages.

1st grade class – Dance Around the World.

Mr. Simon and Mrs. Massimo, Principals WSS and LH

SEL Program – trying to build a good character in the schools. Feeling words curriculum.

Teachers choose words and each grade has a different word. Each grade has a different type of writing assignment for the words chosen. The Librarian also puts out word and book suggestions.

WSS gives out marbles for good deeds and created a song for kindness.

With the help of SIT and the SEL program started a lunchtime program with an older grade going to play with a younger grade. The children are starting to make more relationships.

The WSS Psychologist goes to classrooms to do Dignity for all Students (DAS) workshops.

At LH there is a service learning program. The 6th graders can sign up as helpers on the bus, watering plants. Planning on starting a Pay it Forward initiative. On the News TV they have the Mood Meter on the green screen. Going to start putting student phrases up on the school walls. Dr. Moss doing a game show like format to teach social filters.

Mr. Matuk, Principal CSHHS

Regarding SEL – it's about everything that impacts learning for all under one roof in many stages of development. Trying to make students feel comfortable and ready to learn.

Yankee Doodle Circus was geared to kids but in talks with Mr. Bongino about adding a circus program to the gym curriculum.

Character Recognition Program – i.e. empathy posters in the building. Hawk Talk makes public service announcements.

Teachers pick 2 students that demonstrate what these words mean and then have a recognition afternoon for that child and their parents.

Identify certain grade levels where clicks are formed so the school is going to start programs to lessen that. The 8th grade will be going to Caumsett to engage in trust building activities for 4 hours and make up the groups with kids they do not know.

In the 10th grade when seeing bad decision making could use more invasive programs. On a Challenge Day the students will work in groups of 4-5 and the theme is “If you really knew who I am”. Goal is to realize you are not really alone, foster empathy. Want students to get familiar with their peers and feel comfortable

Also have substance abuse programs with counselors and gym teachers.

Mr. Bongino, Director of Athletics and PE

The school had a very successful winter season.

The girls Basketball team went to Class A finals, had a wrestler go to states, a swimmer and a diver went to states, track in County finals, Gymnastics team went 10-0, fencing team did well. Code of Conduct meeting 3/12 theme will be commitment, character and communication.

Physical Education – CPR is being taught. GH is teaching curling, cross country skiing, and roller blading with Mr. Falen.

Looking to bring technology into PE classes. Want to bring in a personalized program. Each student has their own personal best scores. Generates graphs and charts strengths, and weaknesses. It also interacts with health.

Next BOE meeting March 11.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20. Motion to adjourn Lolita Reichbach and Nancy Israeli

