May 24, 2016

SAC Meeting

June 7th is the next SAC meeting.

At this meeting we need to focus on elections for SAC and what SAC should focus on in the future. Should we make this more of an open meeting? We need more parents to attend.

Minutes approved by Kim 1st, then Lou.

Principal’s updates:

1. Principal coffee hour – about 30 parents. Topics included: updates on what’s going on in the school and reminders to check the blog. The big topic of conversation was the Keystone change in policy – 9th grade is impacted by this change. Keystones will not impact the graduation of the 10th through 12th grade.

2. Keystone exams have been taking place. Make-ups take place tomorrow, then they are done.

3. Two proms have happened. Both were successful.

4. Fifth and sixth grade orientation happened last week. The tours were very big. They may need to be tweaked next year.

5. Odyssey of the Mind is at the world championships right now with Ms. Sui.

6. The chess team went to Harrisburg and visited with the governor.

7. Both track and field and tennis went to states. Boys baseball is in play-offs.

8. Middle school raised $4200 for Pennies for Leukemia.

9. Mr. Boback is retiring; Mr. Saint Clair will be dean. There are 2 new hires – 6th grade science and literacy and art.

Question- where will art be held? Possibly room 12.

10. Ms. Neu is teaching a film class next year. Our WHYY lab will be completed.

11. Science classrooms are being renovated. The timeline is unclear. Information will go out to parents when more is known. FLC has a conference room that has been offered for our use. It would probably be seniors using it 1st and 2nd period.

There are no student representatives present.

1. When is Spirit Week – June 13th.

2. What is the time frame on finals – 9th through 11th – June 7th – 9th.

3. Fifth and sixth grade dance – June 16th.

No HSA representatives are present:

1. The auction raised $70,000!

2. Kim Seibert is stepping down and Denise Connerty is being appointed since it’s mid-term.

3. The Legacy Fund is being used for chrome books and print books. We’ve used $100,000 to date. The district purchased English and math books. Priorities were set in each department. We haven’t spent all of the money yet.

4. Laps for Education – registration is currently happening. There are four activities taking place. Every two grades gets about 2 hours to participate. The event is taking place Friday, June 10th. It’s posted on the Facebook page. We’ll do an Edline posting.

5. June 2nd - seniors present to the rest of the high school about the college application process. Ms. Tait will be talking to the middle school parents about “the changing brain”.

Middle States

1. We are officially accredited. Accreditation lasts for 7 years. In 3 years we will do a colloquium.

The question was raised: What happened to the directory? There is no one in charge anymore; we’ve lost the several people who used to work on it. It was a very big job, and privacy is an issue – FERPA. There are a few parents working on it… Can we make it work again? There is a general consensus that it’s worth reviving.

Can a form go out with the Legacy mailing, which goes out soon? Alison would be happy to enter information into a spreadsheet if the form goes home in the early summer. Mr. Meola would help, too.

Someone should email Denise Connerty about this. Let’s collect this information from parents and hold it until we get the okay. Alison will email her.

Alfredo arrived. High school report:

1. Elections were held. Both the president -Robert Sims – former

Vice President have experience with leadership and student government.

2. Spirit week is the week after finals. There is lots of prep going on. Odd number graduates are paired, as are evens.

3. Finals are taking place soon.

4. College acceptance – all seniors know where they’re going.

5. Senior projects – seniors are out of the building this week and next.

6. The senior lounge was redone by Shin – repainted and given new furniture. It’s not 100% finished but most is done

7. Comcast Cares was a success. The counselors’ corridor and roof received sprucing up.

8. The end of year field trip is the very last day of school at VonColin field. There is a staff/student softball game.

9. Student government is working to bring back dodge ball.

10. High school graduation takes place in our auditorium at 5:00 p.m. Families, alumni, and juniors are invited.

11. Ninth grade orientation will happen in August.

School Wellness Policy:

\*Sally Moore couldn’t be here to present. The district has a policy. Sally runs HYPE and is very involved with the policy. We’ve been rolling it out slowly. What is the policy? What are the expectations? Where are we going with it next year? Sally will present at the next meeting.

Admissions numbers – addressing rumors.

Were there more students admitted this year than last? No.

Elections for SAC – there are currently 5 teachers, two students, and the principal. How many parents do we need? Is there an ideal number overall?.

Read from the handbook by Ms. Brown:

7-21 members total

the principal

a minimum of 51% parents

a minimum of 3 high school students

aminimum of 2 staff members selected by PFT building committee

We need to recruit – send out mailings and emails…

Elections – publicize the election 1st. Make a formal public announcement. Everyone needs a fair chance to vote.

Should we do this in the beginning of the year? New families will be here. Alison wants to know if we could start the process and get people thinking about this.

There is not enough time to do this before the end of the year. Our best tool is email right now.

There is a consensus to wait until fall. We’ll take advantage of Back to School night.

Alison is concerned that people know that we will have an election in the fall so that they don’t think it’s not happening. Will Ms. Brown put it on the blog ? Yes.

Where are our minutes going? Can we put them on the website? The previous year’s were there. Parents will have to log in to see minutes so that they’re not public. There is a SAC page right now, but it’s blank (Alfredo added this knowledge). Whoever takes minutes would have to send them to Mikaela. Can we add an email contact if parents want to add something to the agenda? Kim is volunteering to be an administrator on the site. Alison will send her the past minutes.

SAC elections – Alfredo cautions that fifth grade parents might be too inexperienced for SAC. Ms. Geiger mentions that there will be a vote. Ms. Neu mentions that Ms. Appel was elected when her child was in fifth grade. Ms. Brown mentions that everyone brings a unique perspective.