

School Governance Council

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2014

6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order 6:35
2. Approval of Minutes from meeting on January 7, 2014 Motion by Ms. Edwards seconded by Marc Poliquin.
 - a. Questions around community member living outside of Danbury- but she works here in Danbury and has owned a business here
 - b. Members in attendance: Adriana Mendoza, Tosha Gordon, Ed Wachowski, Marilyn Machado, Lindsey Edwards, Stefan Carretero, Marc Poliquin, Shannon Henggeler, Bonnie Caton.
3. Public Comment –none
4. Principals Report:
 - a. DRA testing is finished
 - b. Invention Convention update from Shannon Henggeler. Last Wednesday in March will be held at Western Connecticut University.
 - c. Spelling club update by Marc Poliquin: narrowed down to top 12 on February 19 they will compete against each other for the top 3 spots. Those top 3 will go onto to regional at Western Connecticut State University and finalists from there go onto Washington DC; A story was done for paper on the spelling club and is posted on district website
 - d. Redistricting is finalized; We will be getting 40ish students from Ellsworth school- this will be determined by street address and we are unsure of the number as of now or what grades they are in; We will need to make sure to reach out to these families to make them feel welcome.
 - e. Construction is on time and should be done
 - f. Next year, we will be getting a part time assistant principal that we will be sharing with Shelter Rock because we will be over 450 students.
 - g. We are implementing the Kind Kids Program...wearing necklaces and acknowledging kind acts to earn the necklaces; Each week all of the students who earn the necklace will get their picture taken and fill out a certificate of why they got it and who they gave it to. The program also offers a night where they will come and families can come and make the clay beads and bell parts for Ben's Bells here at school. We are looking to do that here in the spring sometime.
 - h. The Kindness and Compassion Club is holding a Pennies for Patients to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society- our school goal is \$500 It is over March 2nd/3rd ; They meet on Thursdays from 3-4:15
 - i. It's been challenging over the last month with all of the weather and interruptions. It's been tough to get into a groove in the classroom as well as at home.

- j. We hired a long term sub for the remainder of the year for Mrs. Ireland, Melinda Maher. She completed a long term sub at the Magnet school this fall.
 - k. We are in the process of hiring another music teacher as well. Close to being able to announce the new music teacher.
- 5. Report from January PTO meeting (Ms. Edwards)- discussed past events and Whaler's night was very successful they made about \$700. Lots of fun and many students sang God Bless America; They discussed budget; Silent auction is starting soon too. They also asked about damaged materials that the teachers lost during the pipe burst. We are waiting to see what the district replaces and then the PTO has offered to help teachers replace items if needed.
- 6. Appoint PTO attendee for February- Adriana Mendoza
- 7. Subcommittee Report-Update on activity/Goal Definition – We had Common Core Night for Grades 3-5. The turnout was good. We had three sessions/presentations and it was well liked and received by all. We need to set date for K-2 night maybe toward the end of March after CMT testing (March 4-14). We will look at having the K-2 night towards the end of March, but before April.
 - a. Parent Liaison update- goal is for it to be in action by next year; running into a problem with confidentiality...PTO needs to collect information on students vs. office giving Parent Liaisons this information; We have a good definition of job description and what this job is going to consist of.
- 8. Discuss future committee work- brainstorm ideas, goals for open house/conferences- We have parent's attention at Open House; Maybe grade levels to come up with a list of things throughout the year that need to be done and/or volunteered for so this can be set up at beginning of year.
 - a. Families at home to possibly start working on developing keyboarding skills
 - b. Send a note home in March or April inviting them to one of our last couple of SGC meetings to get parents interested in joining SGC. We need to fill 4 parent slots and 2 teacher slots to fill; We will need 2 community members; forms will be sent out in March.
- 9. Set agenda for next meeting- follow same –outline
 - a. Things staff may want to put on their calendar for next year in terms of parent help/volunteer in classroom
 - b. Sub committee time to plan K-2 CCSS night.
- 10. Motion to end meeting at 7:36 by Bonnie Caton and 2nd by Shannon Henggeler.

The next SGC meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2014 at 6:30p.m.

