

PARENT UPDATE

A Summary of a Recent Meeting of the District-Wide Parent Committee

December 12, 2017

Call to Order/Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at Spence Elementary, LMC.

Attendance

Central High School: Trista Treglowne	State Road: Tammy Wills
LaCrossroads: Not represented	Summit: Barbara Jo Wolff
Logan High School: Brenda Leahy	Members at Large: Not represented
Lincoln Middle School: Patrick Lockley, Laura Olson (excused)	BOE Liaison: Dawn Comeau Tom Thompson (excused)
Logan Middle School: Not represented	LEA Liaison: Not represented
Longfellow Middle School: Lori Potkay, Jeff Murphy	Superintendent Randy Nelson
LaCrosse Design Institute: Not represented	Executive Director of Business Services Patty Sprang
SOTA II: Kyle Backstrand	Associate Superintendent/Instruction Troy Harcey (excused)
Coulee Montessori Elementary/Adolescent: Bennett Myers	La Crosse Public Education Foundation Executive Director David Stoeffler
Emerson: Steve Woodward	Visitors: Director of Secondary Education & Supervisor of Science Stacey Everson
Northside Elementary: Heather Pintz, Jennifer Schmitz	Gundersen Health System Child & Family Therapist Jeff Reiland
Hamilton: Jaclyn Olsey	
Hintgen: Diane Wilson	
North Woods International: Not represented	
Southern Bluffs: Not represented	
SOTA I: Not represented	
Spence: Suzie Pence (excused)	

Student Showcase – Spence Elementary Students

Spence Elementary servant leaders provided a presentation regarding managing the food pantry at the school and volunteering as bell ringers to raise money for New Horizons.

La Crosse Public Education Foundation

Executive Director of Business Services David Stoeffler reported that 32 grants totaling approximately \$42,000 were announced December 6. The Foundation received 45 grant requests totaling \$76,000. The second round of grants will be announced February 26. He noted that the grants less likely to be funded were requests for furniture, including different seating options for children in the classroom.

Dealing with Bullying Amongst Friends – Gundersen Health System Child and Family Therapist Jeff Reiland

Gundersen Health System Child and Family Therapist Jeff Reiland communicated that Gundersen has partnered with the Compassion Alliance to train trainers within the district. The Alliance focuses on whether behavior is kind, rather than if it is technically “bullying”. “Bullying” behavior can be affected and normalized by outside influences like the social and political climate. The best predictor of healthy emotional outcomes in children is friendships; parents should model empathy and help children develop friendship skills. Compassion presentations for parents have three goals: engage; empower; and inform. Social “bullying” (leaving someone out on purpose, telling others not be a friend with a child, spreading rumors or embarrassing someone in public) causes just as much pain as physical “bullying” and adversely affects children’s ability to have normal emotional responses to others; it may even result in aggressive behavior, leading to further exclusion. The District Wide Parent committee engaged in role-playing scenarios.

Superintendent Update

Superintendent Randy Nelson reported that the opioid documentary will be presented at the February 13 District Wide Parent meeting. The administration is trying to make this a community event and is currently looking for a location to accommodate members of the public.

Future Agenda Items

- 2018-19 Budget – Potential Operating Referendum (January agenda)
- Equity (October-May agendas)
- Paper Tigers Presentation
- Lockdown Procedures/ALICE Training
- PTO Best Practices
- One-to-One – Superintendent Randy Nelson
- Update on New Website – Nick Marcou
- Year-Round School Update
- AVID Update – David Stoeffler
- PTO Calendar/Fundraising Dates
- Special Education Supervisor Update
- High School Future Centers
- Hamilton Year-Round School (teacher/parent perspectives)
- RTI - Early intervention
- Middle School iPad Programs
- iPad Support
- iTunesU (What platforms are we using?)
- Math Night?
- Teacher Evaluation
- Ways to reinstate training for parents to be able to help teachers with reading tests
- Budget updates; legislative updates; innovative programs, clubs, projects in district
- Link to help parents learn how to help child (student) with homework – see more of what students are doing in schools, projects, etc.
- Early intervention (preschool and curriculum focus); Special Education (programs, referral process, etc.)
Continued information on special clubs, projects, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, January 9, 2018 7:00 p.m., Southern Bluffs Elementary, LMC