

PARENT UPDATE

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

November 14, 2017

Call to Order/Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at Hamilton Elementary/SOTA I Gym.

Attendance

Central High School: Trista Treglowne
LaCrossroads: Not represented
Logan High School: Not represented
Lincoln Middle School: Not represented
Logan Middle School: Not represented
Longfellow Middle School: Lori Potkay, Jeff Murphy
LaCrosse Design Institute: Not represented
SOTA II: Kyle Backstrand
Coulee Montessori Adolescent: Bennett Myers
Emerson: Steve Woodward
Northside Elementary: Gretchen Knudson-Stuhr
Hamilton: Not represented
Hintgen: Not represented
North Woods International: Not represented
Southern Bluffs: Not represented
SOTA I: Not represented
Spence: Suzie Pence

State Road: Not represented
Summit: Barbara Jo Wolff
Members at Large: Not represented
BOE Liaison: Dawn Comeau (excused)
Tom Thompson (excused)
LEA Liaison: Not represented
Superintendent Randy Nelson
Executive Director of Business Services
Patty Sprang
Associate Superintendent/Instruction
Troy Harcey
La Crosse Public Education Foundation
Executive Director David Stoeffler
President Shawn Dutchin
Visitors: International Keynote Speaker Kevin Honeycutt
Director of Pupil Services Regina Siegel

Student Showcase – Logan High School Students

Hamilton/SOTA I students drum group, *Beat 4 Peace* performed.

La Crosse Public Education Foundation

Executive Director of Business Services David Stoeffler and President Shawn Dutchin distributed the current La Crosse Public Education Foundation (LPEF) newsletter. They also noted that out of 45 requests for grants, 23 will be awarded to staff on December 6. The next round of grants is due the end of February. Please contact David if you would like him to visit with your school's PTO.

YRBS Data

Director of Pupil Services Regina Siegel provided a PowerPoint presentation of the results from the La Crosse County Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Students from Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, Onalaska, West Salem and Luther schools participated in the survey. She explained that the survey was administered using the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Online Survey System. The survey is a snapshot in time and gathered data on multiple health topics such as tobacco and alcohol use, driving safety, physical activity, use of video games, etc. The data is used by area organizations to help improve the quality of life for our community's young population. *The Better Together* grant is an example where this information is used to create programs and partnerships within the community.

Online Safety

International Keynote Speaker Kevin Honeycutt spoke on the importance of online safety for students and parents. His presentation provided examples of how to play it safe when using the internet. He explained that today's students are raising themselves on a digital playground with no supervision. He urged parents to be by their child's side to help guide them and avoid making mistakes that could ruin their children's lives.

PTO Best Practices

District Wide Parent Committee member Bennett Myers stated that Coulee Montessori has started to use Scrip. He questioned how many other schools use it. The Central Band parent group uses Scrip. Kevin Honeycutt suggested using Amazon, GoFundMe campaign, Café Press or contact vendors and see if they will contribute donations if the district would use the vendor's logo on banners, etc.

Joys/Concerns

- There was concern regarding the recent attacks on the south side and questioned if the district was taking a stand.
- The Spence Fun Run netted \$4,000.
- Thank you to Lynn Nelson (Randy's wife) for visiting the meeting.
- There was concern over district sportsmanship toward other rivalry teams.
- Information regarding the Northside 45:15 will be sent home in March. It was noted that the challenge is the number of students in the school and what students will need to opt out.
- There was concern for placement of preschool students at two different schools.

Future Agenda Items

- Questions may be formulated in preparation for Jeff Reiland's presentation at the December meeting.
- Opioid Documentary (December agenda)
- Equity (October-May agendas)
- PTO Best Practices
- One-to-One – Superintendent Randy Nelson
- Lockdown Procedures/ALICE Training (January agenda)
- Update on New Website – Nick Marcou
- Year-Round School Update
- AVID Update – David Stoeffler
- PTO Calendar/Fundraising Dates
- Special Education Supervisor Update
- Meet The Administration Night
- Help Our Students/Community (What do our kids need? Beds, chairs, etc). – Regina Siegel
- 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
- Dealing with bullying amongst friends
- 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, December 12, 2017 7:00 p.m., Spence, LMC