

PARENT UPDATE

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

March 19, 2019

Call to Order/Welcome

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

Attendance

Central High School: Not represented
 LaCrossroads: Not represented
 Logan High School: Brenda Leahy
 Lincoln Middle School: Laura Olson
 Logan Middle School: Not represented
 Longfellow Middle School: Jeff Murphy
 LaCrosse Design Institute: Not represented
 SOTA II: Kyle Backstrand
 Coulee Montessori Elementary: Not represented
 Coulee Montessori Adolescent:
 Nathan Warnberg (excused)
 Emerson: Steve Woodward
 Northside Elementary:
 Gretchen Knudson-Stuhr (excused)
 Hamilton: Not represented
 Hintgen: Cassandra Torres
 North Woods International: Jennifer Schmitz
 Southern Bluffs: Alicia Place
 SOTA I: Not represented
 Spence: Pam Hansen
 State Road: Timmy Wills
 Summit: Not presented
 Members at Large: Suzie Pence (excused)
 Trista Treglowne (excused)

BOE Liaison: Dawn Comeau
 Tom Thompson (excused)
 LEA Liaison: Tabatha Veum (excused)
 Superintendent Randy Nelson
 Executive Director of Business Services
 Patty Sprang (excused)
 Associate Superintendent/Instruction
 Troy Harcey (excused)
 Director of Elementary Education
 Todd Antony
 Director of Secondary Education
 Stacey Everson
 La Crosse Public Education Foundation Executive
 Director David Stoeffler (excused)
 Visitors:
 Southern Bluffs Principal Lisa Schreiner
 Southern Bluffs Teacher Michelle Powell
 Coulee Region Site Coordinator for Providers and
 Teens Communicating for Health (P.A.T.C.H.)
 Angela Gelatt
 La Crosse County Health Education Manager
 Paula Silha
 University of Wisconsin – La Crosse Professor of Health
 Education and Health Promotion Keely Rees
 La Crosse County Health Educator Casey Mrozek
 Board Candidates Juan Jimenez and Pelli Lee

School Showcase – Southern Bluffs Elementary

Principal Lisa Schreiner welcomed parents and provided information about Southern Bluffs Elementary, including various school celebrations, such as Family Nights, the Holiday Fair, and the whole school morning meeting. Southern Bluffs kindergarten teacher, Michelle Powell, provided a presentation on SMART (Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness Training). Students in early childhood, pre-K, and kindergarten classes participate in large motor activities in order to help with academic work which requires fine motor skills.

School Board Candidate Form

Candidate for school board introduced themselves and briefly discussed their philosophies. The candidates are Dawn Comeau (incumbent), Juan Jimenez, and Pelli Lee.

STI's Prevention

La Crosse County Health Education Manager Paula Silha introduced members of her team, including, Coulee Region Site Coordinator for Providers and Teens Communicating Health (P.A.T.C.H.). Angela Gelatt, La Crosse County Health Educator Casey Mrozek, and University of Wisconsin La Crosse – Professor Health Education/Health Promotion Keely Rees. They shared information about sexually transmitted infections (STI's) in the La Crosse area along with geographical data about cases of STI's by geographical area in the community. It was suggested to provide this information to PTO members. The health department is willing to hold roundtables or "table talks" to educate parents on this subject.

Coulee Region Site Coordinator for Providers and Teens Communicating Health (P.A.T.C.H.) Angela Gelatt shared information about organization. This includes a focus on teens and their access to health information. Three pamphlets were shared: A Teen's Right to Privacy in Health Care Settings, You Have The Right! A Guide to Confidential Sexual Health Care in Wisconsin, and PATCH for Teens: The Health Care You Need and Deserve!

Legislative Update

Superintendent Randy Nelson provided an update about the budget as proposed by Governor Tony Evers and then the next steps of the process for budget development.

- **Elementary Education** – Director of Elementary Education Todd Antony informed the group that the district is working on an internal guidance document for preventing attendance issues. The document is geared toward being proactive and engage families to reduce chronic absenteeism. The district is also reviewing the elementary report cards and will include a request for parent feedback.
- **Secondary Education** – Director of Secondary Education Stacey Everson communicated that the La Crosse Engineering Academy will launch next fall. It has a similar format as the Health Science Academy. Over 30 students have expressed interest. The LDI and 7 Rivers students will be moving to the Brickhouse location downtown beginning next school year. Both schools provide project-based learning. She noted that attendance is a key topic at the secondary level as well and that the district is working on understanding issues with truancy and how to keep students focused at school.

Joys/Concerns

- April 4th the film *Inside Montessori* will be shown at English Lutheran Church. If interested in attending, please email Neil Saunders-Scott at nellsaunderscott@gmail.com for additional information.

Future Agenda Items

- Legislative Update (Begin in January)
- Equity (October-May agendas)
- Board Linkage (April agenda)
- Trauma-Informed (Resilience)
- Transportation
- School Safety
- Grant, New Systems
- High Schools (backpacks, etc.)
- PTO Best Practices
- One-to-One Devices
- Year-Round School Update
- AVID Update – Troy McDonald
- PTO Calendar/Fundraising Dates
- Special Education Supervisor Update
- Meet the Administration Night
- High School Future Centers
- RTI - Early intervention
- iTunesU (What platforms are we using?)
- 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.)

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, Tuesday, April 9, 2019, Logan High School, LMC