

Minutes
Parents' Representative Council Meeting
Friday, October 16, 2015
Central Office Hammonasset Room
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Facilitators: Beth Skudder & Maureen Lewis, Co-Chairs

Attendees: Tom Scarice, Superintendent, Beth Skudder, Co-Chair, Maureen Lewis, Co-Chair, Melissa Gulish (TCLC), Christine Piteo (TCLC), Linda Paine (Island), Nicole Wiles (Jeffrey), Tina Phelan (Jeffrey), Carol Ahlijanian (Ryerson), Katy Wallace (DHHS), Paula Steere (Polson), Keiler Snow (Brown)

1. Welcome

Beth Skudder called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

2. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Scarice reported the following:

A draft of the 2016-2017 school year calendar will be presented to the Board on October 20th. We will recommend beginning school after Labor Day, and keeping the same end date with 180 days as opposed to 183 days. Teachers will continue to work the same number of days. Legislation regarding the regional calendar was passed which we will need to follow next year. April vacation will include Good Friday and we will have one less week to deal with during the summer heat.

The next Public Forum will be held on Monday, October 19th at Brown Middle School.

We are currently forming an Enrichment Committee to research an enrichment program that would begin next year and be phased in over time for grades 3 through 8.

3. Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2015 with changes noted by Beth Skudder, 2nd by Maureen Lewis. Approved. Unanimous.

4. Subcommittee Reports

M.A.D.E. – meeting this week; nothing to report as yet.

Political Action – all set for next Thursday, October 22nd at Polson Middle School. A discussion ensued regarding where and how to post the information.

Food Services Council – Michele Menard attended yesterday's meeting and will provide an update at the next meeting. Michele will serve on the subcommittee that will be reviewing the district's wellness plan.

****No Solicitations****

5. School Reports

Brown – Adrienne Campbell is the new PTO secretary. PTO donations are currently at 25%. The PTO is trying to schedule a speaker, in conjunction with Polson, regarding internet safety (possibly Mike Ginsburg?). Bake sale scheduled for Election Day.

Polson – general PTO meeting scheduled for October 26th at 7 p.m. Trying to rotate day and evening PTO meetings; notification will be sent through eNotify. Grade coordinators will be speaking about their role. S. A. Bodeen, author of children and young adult books, visited the school and spoke to grades 7 & 8 separately about the struggles of being an author. A fife and drum band will be coming for Veterans Day. 200 individuals have paid their PTO dues.

Ryerson – concluded the Scholastic Book Fair in conjunction with Connecticut Loves to Read week. There has been an increase in volunteers. 65% of dues paid. A cultural arts program was held – Hansel & Gretel (marionettes) and Shakespearians are scheduled for November 10th. The PTO is considering a new families' coffee hour which would include room parents. Brainstorming fundraising ideas.

Jeffrey – Tina Phelan reported a magician, Justin Maz, will be coming to Jeffrey on October 23; the school will receive 50% of ticket sales. Fundraisers have ended. At the 1st general PTO meeting, Mike Ginsburg, the librarian and math specialist gave a talk on technology. Seventy VOTE signs were printed to be distributed amongst the 6 schools for a total cost of \$364.54 or \$60.76 per school.

Island – general PTO meeting held October 13th; 10 people attended. Pumpkin fair scheduled for October 24th, 11-3, with the Halloween costume parade the following Friday, October 31st. Spirit wear fall drive is ongoing and another drive will be held in the winter and the spring. The movie "Home" is scheduled to be shown during movie night, November 13th.

TCLC – spoke with Liz Battaglia after the last PRC meeting. She intends on sending an email to TCLC parent with a survey regarding PTO meetings. Will set-up a time for any interested parents for coffee and establish an email chain to keep people connected. Liz approved asking for donations.

Hand – first executive board meeting with T. J. Salutari and first general PTO meeting held. Ten parents attended the PTO meeting. The PTO is considering moving the meeting to the evening to encourage better attendance. Dues are abysmal. Pep rally will occur Friday before 1st home football game. PSAT given this week.

Motion to adjourn by Beth Skudder, 2nd by Maureen Lewis, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

BS/ML/wb

****No Solicitations****