

Central Parent Council Minutes

Thursday, 11/14/2024

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Call to Order, Chair Report

Chair, Erin Rechler

Meeting called to order at 9:07 AM - Jen Cahn and Dori Obrien

3. Approval of Minutes from 10/17/24 CPC Meeting

CPC Secretary, Nicole Prizzi

Sandra Reilly moved to approve the 10/17/24 minutes, and Dori Obrien seconded.

4. Status & Resolution Report

CPC Vice Chair, Cristen Blundell

5. Treasury Report

Nothing reported, will be sending invoices in next month to parent groups.

6. Parent Group Updates

Each school organization gave an update on past and upcoming events.

- Goosehill Primary School (GHPTG)
- Lloyd Harbor School (LHSPTG)
- West Side School (WSSPTG)
- CSH Junior/Senior High School (CSHPTG)
- Special Education Parent Teacher Organization (SEPTO)
- Families of the Community United with Schools (FOCUS)
- Cultural Arts Committee (CAC)
- Arts Booster Club (ABC)
- CSH Educational Foundation
- Seahawks Booster (absent)

7. Special Topics

• Nutrition updates presented by Ms. Geri Tiger:

○ Ms. Tiger discussed action items from a meeting with parents last year:

- Discussed adding bigger selection of healthier snacks
- Different pasta options
- Changing shapes and options for food that gets repeated
- They are trying to offer more organic options
- Adding suggestion boxes for students
- Tried to do food tasting for Red Ribbon Week based on color Red for the elementary school and provided some nutritional education to kids.

○ New items discussed:

- There is still an issue with preordering parents are not doing as much
- There are NYS guidelines for snacks, sugars, fats and food must be offered what is being served
- There are certain foods that are popular they do make about 30% more bc even if not ordered but make it available as an option.
- At the HS depends on staffing if they can have the panini press option
- **Question** came up regarding ordering specials: its important that parents order in advance so that the cafeteria can do planning.

- **Question** asked about order time to make changes: Gerri indicated she can look into having order time updated. Considering moving to 8:30 AM.
- **New items to consider:**
 - Could we consider there be a fruit or vegetable for the week / month to promote kids trying. I.e. Fruit Fridays. If we do something like this we have to consider cost impact.
 - If there is anything special happening at schools Gerri can work with parent groups to include food options (i.e. pie day)
 - Discussed possibly if SEPTO and FOCUS can bring in speaker to discuss how to promote healthy eating or looking for signs of eating disorders.
 - Consideration for the district looking into other ordering system option, the current system we are using is not mobile enabled.
- **General information:**
 - For students with allergies the cafeteria system has alerts for the staff at register so that they can prevent students from purchasing.
 - If there are foods that you do not want kids to have an alert can go on their account
- **Literacy program update presented by Ms. LaGattuta:**
 - Presentation can found [here](#)
 - The district looked at current literacy program and what improvements are needed. Did a walk through the current programs K-8
 - Determined needed to improve their small group instruction.
 - Do not believe any one program is the solution.
 - Using a combination, i.e. Teachers College (TC) for mini lessons and other programs for small group.
 - Working on training for staff and the scheduled is staggered because amount of staff needed to be trained.
 - Moving away from leveled system (A, B, D...) and moving to where student falls based on skills.
 - Literacy Strategies Consulting are assisting staff with updated.
 - Administrative team has also had to be trained as well to understand
 - Ms Sewell is working to help support staff once they receive training
 - Main beliefs from staff:
 - Differentiated literacy instruction
 - Optimize development of strong literacy skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening).
 - Research based methods
 - Response to individual student's needs.
 - Ms LaGattuta reviewed what the Science of Reading and the NYS Big 6 Skills was (Vocabulary, Oral Language, Phonologic Awareness, Comprehension, Fluency). Currently its an initiative in NYS but there are not specific requirements.
 - Ms LaGattuta reviewed the format of how updates to Literacy program are getting implemented:
 - Mini lesson gives exposure, the small group focus on what skills does a specific student need. TC mini lessons that are linked to state standards and then the small group lessons target specific student needs.
 - Students now have a voice and are getting involved in process and creating their own goals.
 - Best size is 3-4 small group and pairs in younger ages.
 - There is more 1 on 1 attention for assessing (assessment conferences).
 - **Other items discussed during presentation:**
 - Parent asked if the district can provide a mapping of what the reading supports are from our district.

- The school librarians can help students find books that are appropriate for their reading abilities and likes.
- **Regionalization:**
 - Mr. Monastero gave an update on regionalization.
 - Our district is Western Suffolk Boces (54) the district has to submit a tool and regional plan on how district will operate but the details have not been provided specifically from the State Education Board on what they are looking.
 - Our district has listened and read through state documents to understand what they are looking to accomplish with this new regionalization plan.
 - The district has long worked to partner with other districts on many different items (AP) to learn about best practices and share best practices.
 - The district would like to maintain independence to ensure we have the best options available for our students and staff.
 - District was asked to complete a 46 page document in December.
 - Collation of boards are listed on the website of districts who are in support against this process the state has put in place for regionalization survey.
 - Also our district is doing an “Article 78” proceeding to go through legal proceeding to pursue that the state did not proceed legally with this latest survey.
 - Over 50% of the data has been provided historically over the past 10-15 years, the perception is this data collection will allow the state see a picture easily of each school district.
 - Zoom presentation is available on district website with community questions and explanation. To view visit the district website [here](#).
 - Parent brought up benefit of shared services with limits.
 - Discussed impact for taxes whereas CSH would be paying for higher taxes that is supporting other districts.
 - Preformatted letters are available on our district website to be shared with anyone in NYS state that can go to the state education department.

8. **Parent Questions/New Business**

- None

9. **Important Dates to Remember**

- Next CPC meeting is January 16, 2025

10. **Meeting Adjournment**

- Shannon Quinn and Abby Donvac called for adjournment. Erin adjourned meeting at 11:33 AM.