

Hilltop Parent Council- Meeting Agenda

September 18, 2018

Attendees:

Mr. Heller

Pre-K: Pamela Diaz-Barriga; Kindergarten: Vanessa Cierchio & Amy Shammass; 1st grade: Jen Walsh & Francesca Mullany; 2nd grade: Aparna Largman & Cheryl Brown; 3rd grade: Vidoushi Curtil & Jessica Strange; 4th grade: Christine Schwartz & Julianna Korunovski

1. Positives:

- *Kirk Martin's "Celebrate Calm"* presentation was well received. An inquiry was made to possibly have morning and evening presentations to accommodate parent's schedules for any future presentations.
- *Car line dismissal*-chalk lines were made to help organize and facilitate school dismissal which many found to be very helpful. Mr. Heller shared that there are plans to have the lines permanently painted moving forward.

2. Last Year agenda items:

- *Buddy Families*- Wendy Hoch is the chair for welcoming families. Mr. Heller will work with Katie in keeping a list of new families for Wendy to connect with.
- *"Snapshots"* of each grade's activities for the calendar year. Some parents reported they did not receive these at back-to school night. Mr. Heller will ensure with each class that these were/will be handed out or e-mailed.

3. New Items:

- *Kindergarten Morning Drop off*- There was concern from kindergarten parents that it wasn't clear who is charged with supervision in the morning arrival and line-up. It's better now with a few weeks of school underway and parents recognizing school employees. In the future, Mr. Heller will issue an email to parents with photos of staff who will help in the morning.
- *School Supplies*- A question was asked if it is possible to have the school supply orders placed directly into a child's classroom. Mr. Heller will work with the HSA to identify splitting the supply order, offering parents the choice to pick up supplies from school or to have the supplies delivered straight to the classrooms. Before new options are offered, Mr. Heller will also speak with teachers to see if school supplies (included within the boxes) are needed before school starts.
- *Classroom Temperature Control*- the whole school temperature is programmed on a 68-72 degree scale and triggered by outside temperatures. The front rooms of the schools have the original Heat/AC infrastructure from the original building and run on a different system than the rest of the school.

- Retractable awning for the back patio- An inquiry was made asking if an awning has ever been considered for the back patio; which would help on rainy days. Mr. Heller said this was the first this has been brought up. School administration would need to assess how to implement while addressing safety concerns. In extreme situations, Mr. Heller has the children wait in the hallway and coordinate dismissal with the teachers and staff.
- School Uniforms- An inquiry was made as to whether school uniforms were ever considered at the school. Uniforms have never been considered.
- Back to School Night- There was positive feedback on the format of the night, allowing parents the opportunity to attend multiple children's classrooms. The HSA provided an informative and short presentation which was well received. The only voiced concern was the audible quality of Mr. Heller's portion. It was hard to hear him from the back of the room and Mr. Heller asked that people speak up if this happens in the future so he can address the microphone use and/or speak louder.
- Ms. Eagan- as a FYI, Ms. Eagan will be attending future parent council meetings as part of her learning process of school administration and their roles within the school community.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences: it was requested that all teachers/classrooms adopt the Sign-up Genius for scheduling parent teacher conferences. Mr. Heller to speak with teachers to accommodate.
- Parent Council Contacts- Mr. Heller already sent an email to families with an overview of council members, and their contact information, as well as where to find the monthly meeting minutes.
- Next Meeting: October 23, 2018