

PAC – Parent Advisory Council

11-13-19

In Attendance: Mark Cappel, Elaine Kane, Laura Shansey, Staci Landuyt, Ruth Waggener, Jennifer Purvis, Dawn Humphrey, Melissa Batchelor and Kara Twichell

Mark Cappel:

- Welcome by Mark Cappel who introduced Elaine Kane as guest speaker.

- **Elaine Kane-**

Upcoming special events dates:

- Science Fair will be held on the evening of January 16th at North Elementary School. High School Students help judge which is great for near peer mentoring. SIUE Stem Center is an excellent connection should you get the chance to take your child there.
- Young Author's books are due January 17th with the district level held on March 19th.
- Math Contest will be held on April 4th.
- Math League is in its fourth year partnership with SIUE (Dr. Greg Budzban). AHS students are hired as coaches and trained to work with our 5th graders. We are a three time Champion for Math League. This year the competition will be held at a university in Ohio.
- Testing Dates – ISBE sets the window for IAR testing which is March 11 – April 24th. Students will be testing on Chromebooks.
- Illinois Science Assessments will be given March 2 – April 30 to all 5th, 8th, and 11th graders.
- SAT – Juniors will take it 'free of charge' on April 14th school-wide
- PSAT- This is given to 9th, 10th graders on April 14th as well.
- These tests measure growth and expectation. We can analyze by standards and these tests help us align our curriculum.
- Early Dismissal days for High School students – Student are given this time to work on Khan Academy and College Board accounts to make sure they are set up, linked and being utilized. Students can review their scores, search colleges and much more.

It was mentioned by a parent that the incentives that were offered if a student met/exceeded their prior score was very well received last year. Elaine stated how proud she is of our high school team as they are true to their philosophy and this was a huge task to make the offering to students as it needed much monitoring.

The gifted program was discussed. We no longer want to give the message that if your child does not end up in a self-contained gifted classroom, he/she will not be challenged. This is the perception from having this program and we have many more than 25 students per grade level that need challenged. The identification process was imperfect. We have our universal data to tell us who is achieving above grade level and we work with them. We have students who are high achieving at each school and not separated out in a self-contained class and now we are following student's achievements which we have lots of good options for all students.

- **Questions/Added Statements**

- A concern from a parent on why we are selling kickstart energy drinks in our vending machines.
- Some teachers are not putting grades in skyward in a timely manner – if a student at AHS wants to drop a class they cannot after 20 days however there are no grades in as of that time to see if they are passing/failing.
- We are in need of parent volunteers for parent groups.

Mr. Cappel's Updates:

- Clara Barton and 1854 East Broadway have both been sold. We still have Irving that we are using for storage.
- Looking at upcoming projects. Mr. Cappel went into depth of the projects he has on the list.
- Substitute training went well. If you know anyone interested, please call our HR department. Ms. Adams is working on recruiting for next year already.
- Interviewing for Assistant Superintendent.

Building Reports:

AHS:

A parent wanted to extend appreciation to Kristi Doering for all the work that she did on Homecoming. She had the play as well and put in countless hours and we are lucky to have her.

AMS:

Little Shop of Horrors is this weekend.
Craft fair is coming up on December 7th and 8th

Lovejoy:

Mr. Ducey is in the running for IPA Principal of the Year.

North:

Just had a rummage sale on Saturday and it was well attended. Huge props to Mrs. McLaughlin for her work with the Green Team.

MakerSpace is going well; kids absolutely love it!

Adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Next Meeting is Wednesday, February 12, 2020