

PAC – Parent Advisory Council

1-10-18

**In Attendance:** Mark Cappel, Dawn Humphrey, Laura Shansey, Jennifer Purvis, Susan Hatfield, Alison Donoho, Lola Mans, Ruth Waggener, Melissa Batchelor and Jan Christopher

- Kristie Baumgartner introduced Dan Brynildsen (Technology Director) as the guest speaker today.
  - Recap: In every classroom we have projectors and wireless, Pre K- 1<sup>st</sup> we have four desktops in each classroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade has six Chromebooks per classroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> and up is 1/1 with Chromebooks
  - Last summer we updated all of our wireless, switches and firewall access points for a faster/more reliable connection. We acquired a new phone system this summer and centralized printing for district was implemented.
  - Next year – replace the Elementary level Samsungs as they are on a five year rotation. We will be replacing half the laptops for staff and some of the desktops that are getting older. Will also work on the server infrastructure and fiber at middle school for faster, better service. E-rate allows us to do a lot of these projects for 85% off of the cost.
  - FYI- With our filter we are able to keep kids safe on their devices at school as well as home. We also host a feature that monitors self-harm and bullying key words and we can recognize a problem and assist students.
  - PARCC- Technology went very well for PARCC. This year we are going to test AMS on Chromebooks and use paper/pencil for elementary students.
  - We are looking into a program as well that parents can pull up and see what websites their students have visited.
  - HAPARA – Is a program that teachers can see where students are in real time on their computer. Teachers can block students Chromebooks for every site except what lesson the teacher is working on. Well utilized at AHS.
  - Google Classroom – HAIKU is not being used any longer. You can do everything in Google Classroom that you can do in HAIKU. It was a cost saving measure to stop using HAIKU.

Kristie:

- Invitation today to attend the ribbon-cutting at Mark Twain School on Milton Road at 1:30 p.m.
- School parties:
  - All elementary schools will participate in a Valentine exchange.
  - Halloween has shifted more to a family evening event
  - Birthday's- Ask your child's teacher what works best regarding time for treat, what treats to bring and drink/no drink preference. As a

suggestion: Doughnuts are sometimes a nice change. Parents appreciate checking ahead for any allergies as well.

- Early Childhood Grant Application is due this Friday. Although we are a Gold Circle Program this is always a process we have to go through and never guaranteed.

## **BUILDING REPORTS:**

### **Gilson/West-**

- February 9<sup>th</sup> starts World's Finest Chocolates
- Two teachers received AEF Grants- Shannon Stanton for science books and Lynda Willings for parent workshop (with more details to come).

### **Lovejoy –**

- Pizza hut fundraiser and went well
- Papa Johns will be at the end of the month

### **Band/Chorus**

- Selling brooms for trip to Disney

## **Miscellaneous Comments:**

- Need less phone dialers from the AAA association.
- Stipulations on finals
  - Seniors ONLY may be exempt from taking finals second semester if they meeting the following criteria:*
    - ❖ *A or B in the class*
    - ❖ *No tardy referrals*
    - ❖ *Fewer than 6 absences*
    - ❖ *No more than 10 discipline points (11 pts. = Finals)*
    - ❖ *There will be no appeals accepted*
- Future topic- Final Exams regarding our overall system on how we are testing kids. *We will invite Mike Bellm/Melissa Edwards to the next meeting to discuss this in detail.*
- AMS Health class regarding testing was brought up for topic discussion.
- Negotiation update: We are in our seventh month without a contract. We are continuing to meet and meetings are productive. Want to thank negotiating team, teachers and staff as they have been extremely flexible and patient. Negotiations have been professional, respectful and positive. Teachers and staff will receive retroactive pay back to July 1<sup>st</sup> (as applicable) when a contract is settled.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018