

PAC Meeting

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

1. Introductions
2. News from Kevin
 - A. School improvement plan report: wants to share information, but also wants to know how we engage our parents and partner in the work that the school is doing.
 - B. Received a gift from class 1960 – tablets, which are being used by the teachers and students in the classroom and the purchase of a Smartboard.
 - C. 2011-12 high school budget for next year is not looking as gloomy as predicted. We will have more money available from the mill levy starting in January. Because of 3A and other budgeting things that have happened, we may not have to make the kind of cuts that we had to make this year.
 - D. Showcase is Monday, November 29th with an encore presentation on January 10th. We are working on a more formal presentation of our written information to give to parents during these evenings. We are mailing postcards to our feeder schools, our shadowing program has begun, and Kevin will have Laurie send out a reminder tomorrow email to the middle school principals about Showcase.
 - E. Meet with faculty regarding grading policies, which will begin next semester. Retakes and other inconsistencies will be addressed. In the long term what we want to create is that learning is the constant and time is the variable.
 - F. Work with professional learning communities will start the second semester – literacy and reading across the curriculum, equity, and the standards based piece will be a part of this.
3. Unity Council – Brent, Shannon and Ainsley Cone: born out of threats last spring (bathroom wall incidents and the Baptist Church demonstration). Kids came up with positive ideas to celebrate our school. 24 kids on the Unity Council w/ new members still joining.
The main goal is to build a unified school and celebrate the school and its diversity. Develop skills to address bias and create an environment where students feel safe and connected. We figure out ways to do all these things: T-shirt, unity wall, hallway challenges (high fives and have lunch with someone new), each student signs a resolution of respect, become a no place for hate school (do a couple events and then go to a training with the Anti Defamation League). Move from a segregated community to a more unified community.
Activities to address the goals: A Day without Hate; Diversity Dance, PTV announcements; Challenge Day; Youth Conferences; T-shirt contest; Unity wall.

Have different groups in the school represented in the Unity Council, and after the meeting, the representatives go back to their respective groups and relay information about what the Unity Council is doing. Utilizing group representatives, the Unity Council can reach more kids.

Bill de la Cruz, Shannon, Kevin & Brent have been working with the faculty on building a unified school community. 38 faculty members are currently participating. Bill will act as a facilitator for a series of conversations with BHS parents and the school community to explore the impact of race, class, and bias in our school community. The Colorado Department of Education's Equity Toolkit for Administrators will be used as the foundation for this work. The first conversation will be held on Wednesday, December 8 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm in the cafeteria.

PAC will advertise this event on Enews in addition to a letter being sent out, announced on the website. It was suggested that perhaps PAC have a parent Unity Committee that meets with the kids and reports back to PAC.

4. Committee Reports

- A. Balloon Committee: due to the fact that a child at the school has a latex allergy, a celebration balloon policy has been drafted and will be posted on the helium tank and will be distributed to all organizations.
- B. Teacher Appreciation Committee: We are planning a December cookie bake for the staff where they can come and fill a container with home baked goods for the Holidays.
- C. Showcase Liason Committee: We need more volunteers to help for the November 29th event. We will send out an emergency Enews asking for volunteers.
- D. District Accountability Committee: The plans will be posted to the CBOE website in April. The committees will start working in December, and there will be a budget committee, equity committee and others.
- E. Governance Team: Teachers making phone conferences with parents is being reevaluated as its effectiveness and usefulness. Building heat issues have also been addressed. Study skills have been addressed in that parents aren't feeling like their kids are given the necessary skills to transition to college. Would PAC be able to provide a Club Committee so that PAC could help kids become more involved in clubs and after school activities?