

ELHS Parent Council March 19 pm Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome / Introductions – Lural Baltimore

Agenda adjusted to add Harry Jadun.

II. Detroit Soles Donations – Harry Jadun

The MSU tennis team is leading an effort in the E L community to collect new and gently used shoes, to be donated to the homeless in Detroit. A bin has been set in the school office as well as at the E L public library. The collection will run through April. Contact Harry Jadun with questions jadunhar@msu.edu

III. Featured Topic: ACLU Presentation (45 min) – Stacy Hickox

Reviewed relationship between race & disabilities and incident reports of suspensions and expulsions. Posted statistics about ELHS which confirmed this relationship; unsure of the dates. Reviewed organization's goals: to ensure due process, to question 'zero' tolerance, and to explore alternatives to suspensions/expulsion. Discussed peer mediation and restorative justice. Recommends for school districts to maintain specially trained dispute resolution staff. Contact info: hickoxs@msu.edu

IV. Tech Timeline Review - Christian Palasty – absent

- Business Meeting -

V. Moved and approved January Council minutes.

VI. ELHS Administrative Report - Nancy Artman

Registration process of 2013-2014 underway; master schedule should be up by end of week. MME make up tests this week. MSU will not be available for ACTs next year, anticipate using ELHS school facilities. Spring conference attendance down from Fall and from last Spring. Staff currently reviewing gaps in student learning and brainstorming remedies.

VII. Board of Education Update – Nathaniel Lake - absent

VIII. District Parent Council Update - Elizabeth Vanis - absent

IX. Black Parent Union Update – Lural Baltimore

Continue to talk about emergency protocol. Planning for BSU celebration of seniors underway, date TBD. Andy Wells discussed the duties and goals of his equity officer position.

X. Council Treasurer's report – group reviewed and approved updated report as presented; Andy reminded to submit \$250 check for TURF. Monies still available for additional teacher grants.

XI. New Business

Gene Gutierrez distributed a potential speaker topic in Tessie's absence. Group reviewed topic description handout generated by Kevin Epling, who speaks about anti-bullying measures to civic and school groups. Council discussed the benefits of having this discussion amongst ELHS students rather than a handful of council adults at a council meeting. Concerns focused on assisting students and the school community in understanding the definition of bullying, with examples, including cyber bullying. Nancy Schertzing suggested some workshops through restorative justice avenues that might best focus on this topic. Doing this during Excel might be an option. Nancy Artman assured group that staff has drastically re-evaluated what traditions fall into the category of hazing and bullying and are now deemed unacceptable. Concerns expressed about continued bullying/hazing attitudes in school sport/band organizations. Topic tabled until Nancy S and Nancy A can discuss together about various options.