

ELHS Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Committee/Meeting Name	ELHS Parent Council				
Date	9/23/14	Starting Time	6:30p.m.	Ending Time	8:10 p.m.
	ELHS HUB			Recorder	Laura Dotson
Members Present	Introductions made verbally. There was not a sign in sheet.				

Topics	Discussion, Information	Action to be Taken, Decision, Recommendation, Timeline
Nancy Shertzling	President Schertzing called this a working meeting. Parents put labels on the envelopes and folded fundraising letters for distribution to parents.	
Introduction of Principal Fletcher	Principal Fletcher introduced himself and shared background information about his family and work experience.	Parents welcomed him to the high school. Parent Tina Reynolds asked if he would make the meetings each month. He responded yes, unless there is a conflict, a representative would be present.
Introduction of Parents	Parents introduced themselves round robin style. Parents asked the principal questions about his impressions the first month.	Who is the Online Learning Coordinator for the high school? Nicole Moore-Coss is the Online Learning Coordinator for the high school. How was homecoming? Homecoming was great. There were approximately 600 kids at the Homecoming dance which is an increase from prior years.

		<p>Is it normal to have more than 30 kids in a classroom? No, 30 kids in the classroom is not normal. Budget reductions caused the increase in class size.</p> <p>Are certain classes exempt at 30 and above? Yes. Certain classes have size limitations due to available resources and space. For example, Lab classes. Algebra 1 and English 1 classes are usually less than 30 students.</p> <p>Are we still doing common test for same class? Yes. Common tests are still being given for the same class.</p> <p>Is there a creative way to give English teaches more support so that we can really work on writing skills. English teachers need more support. Perhaps assistance with editing, AP English students have done a lot of writing so far and have not had anything returned. This goes back to Budget concerns. The district will continue to look at these issues going forward.</p>
Review of August Meetings	August was an informal meeting. No minutes were taken.	
Treasurer's	The Budget proposal was distributed to meeting participants.	The draft proposal based on last year's Budget

Report, Shan Swiezter		<p>and expenditures. So far we have \$5900 in the bank. We received a generous contribution from an anonymous donor. Fundraising effort is primarily geared toward parent donations. The letter drive (working project for this evening) is being initiated to solicit donations. After discussion on fundraising effort and teacher grants timing and amounts, a motion to accept Budget proposal was adopted with friendly amendment to raise total amount for fundraising to \$8500 and the teacher grants increased to \$5000.</p> <p>Discussion was on raising the line item for the teacher appreciation luncheon but the group decided to table this suggestion for now. Timing of email for parent volunteers was discussed and encouragement of cash donations was decided.</p>
School Board Report, Nate Lake	<p>The school board is aiming to be more inclusive and transparent. Draft meetings of meeting are on site and agenda will be out as early as possible prior to meeting to give people who want to speak on the issues an opportunity to speak prior to meeting.</p> <p>Shannon Flood is student rep. Board Liaison for schools changed.</p> <p>Discussed open school board seats. Stay tuned for information regarding candidate forums.</p> <p>Ongoing construction at Glencarin and MacDonald Middle School seems to be going well. Superintendent is currently having a listen and learns tour where she is going to different school events to meet the school community.</p> <p>Teacher contract is not finalized. No official calendar yet. October and</p>	

	<p>November calendar and religious calendar were approved. Other months are still pending.</p> <p>The school board will meet with City of EL next Monday at 6:00 to discuss issues such as strategic plan, library (students after school) discussion on budget for after school snacks.</p> <p>Nate encouraged parents to reach out to local politicians regarding education funding issues. He also encourages parents to reach out to him via email with questions as needed.</p>	
Co-President DonnaKaplowitz	<p>There is a vacancy for Vice President (VP) of Programs. Not a burdensome job. Calendar for year has already been started. Looking for assistance.</p> <p>October we are having a candidate forum. All 8 school board candidates will come and tell their vision for the district. Q & A afterwards s. District Parent Council was invited. It will be held in cafeteria. Middle school may be putting on a forum. The meeting is scheduled for October 21st. Leadership meetings are being held on Weds, the day after parent council meetings to digest what was said.</p> <p>District Parent Council is the 2nd Thursday of every month. Discussed EL foundation raising money, director of technology talked about all new technology including the advanced 911 features. The phone calls can show s what classroom the calls came from.</p>	Sheila Nash volunteered to serve as VP of Programs.
Volunteer Coordinator, Wanda Jones	<p>This year was the first time that they registered all four grades in one day. It went pretty smooth for the first time. Some students volunteered. Found the student contribution to be helpful.</p> <p>The next thing coming up is luncheon. The information should come out soon seeking volunteers.</p>	

	Wanda will welcome any names of volunteers. They should go through Ebulletin. We have a letter template from the past so it can go with the eblast.	
Teacher Grants, Konrad Hittner	<p>Konrad introduced a draft procedure to follow for awarding teacher grants. We will continue to provide funding thorough teach grants, until available funds are expended. There will be a second window of opportunity beyond the October 10th deadline. The deadline will be extended but not open ended. Konrad will look at last year's records and propose a reasonable date. Looking at list of grants honored from last year we went beyond \$500 per grant so we will not have a \$500 cap this year. This allows for more grant awards.</p> <p>We agreed to add 10 more minutes to agenda to continue this discussion.</p>	The procedure was approved with changes to the timeline for open grants. We will follow our established process and tie it around collaboration grants as a way to double our money.