

Canon-McMillan School District Parent Council

Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2011

The January meeting of the 2010/2011 Parent Council was called to order at 9:41am on Friday, 01/14/11 at Wylandville Elementary School by Amy Smith – Parent Council Vice President. Jan Lawrence – Parent Council President was not in attendance. There were 33 people in attendance.

Amy Smith (Vice President) thanked Wylandville for hosting and Ms. Kazos introduced 4th grade student volunteers.

School Reports:

Ms. Kazos and Mrs. Unitas (Borland Manor and Wylandville Elementaries) –

- Thanked the PFA for hosting and organizing the Parent Council meeting.
- Preparing for PSSA testing.
- Report cards will be distributed 1/27.
- Both schools have an Illusionist program booked
- 4th graders in both schools are participating in the Battle of the Books Literary competition.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were unanimously approved as distributed by Michelle Belfiore and seconded by Diane Yarosh.

Featured Speaker:

Matt Harding, Technology Coordinator -

- Gave overview of the technology department. There are 4 staff members in the technology department.
- Responsible for the district website. The website will be overhauled in the next year.
- They use WORD order / ticket system. There are approximately 20 tickets on average open at any time in the 13 buildings that the technology department supports.
- Have the capability of 'remotely' fixing computers without driving to each building.
- Very proud of the Data Center at the High School. It rivals other schools and private sectors. The Data Center has battery backup power, 20+ servers for the web site & email, leased fiber optic connectivity, and wireless unit.
- The Canonsburg Middle school will be getting new equipment and all the High School teachers received new computers.
- Question-Concerning Spam. Answer – There is a device in the system that 92% of emails, sent to the school addresses are trashed.
- .Question-What do you do with old computers? Do you donate them? Answer – Yes, we have in the past. Computers have been donated to St. Patrick's Catholic

School. Most of the time the equipment is used in the district until it is useless. A recycling company disposes of the old equipment.

- Question-Is the technology department responsible for the content of the district website? Answer – There is a program on the secretary and principal's computer that allows them to contribute to the content, but the tech department also updates the websites.

School Board Members –

Bob Malwitz introduced himself. Joe Zupancic spoke about the process of hiring the high school assistant principal. This position would fill what was vacated by Ms. Kazos, when she went to Borland Manor.

Mrs. Grace Lani (Director of Curriculum and Instruction)-

- Mr. Hall (Assistant Principal at High School) is a new dad. His wife gave birth to twin girls.
- Curriculum meeting took place. Benchmark testing is taking place to identify areas where the children need help.
- All high school seniors were retested. All must be proficient in reading and math.

Mrs. Tomicek (South Central) –

- Battle of the Books program being implemented.

Mrs. Brose (Muse and Hills-Hendersonville) –

- Smart Boards are being used in every classroom.
- Radio Disney program took place before the holidays.
- Battle of the Books program being implemented.
- Students made donations to the Humane Society.

Mr. Shrag (Canonsburg Middle School) –

- 7th grade Fun Night will be held on 1/14.
- On 1/19 the Middle School will start a CMS Book Club.
- In December there was a Scholastic Book Fair.
- Chess Club will begin.
- Spring Musical tryouts are beginning.
- Question-Basketball Middle School uniforms are in terrible shape. Answer – There is a replacement schedule that is coordinated through Mr. Montecalvo, Athletic Director.

High School –

- No one present

Mr. Abbondanza (North Strabane Intermediate) –

- Participated in the Sarris Public Library fundraiser.
- Benchmark testing coming up in reading and math.
- Participated in food committee luncheon where the children gave feedback on food choices.
- Chess Club meets two times a week at the end of the school day.
- Ben Lovejoy, Pittsburgh Penguin, came to speak to a 6th grade class about the importance of reading.

Mr. Chambers (Cecil Intermediate)–

- One student was selected as ambassador to Peoples to Peoples International. He will travel to Australia this summer.
- Cultural Day coming up.
- CalcU Solve team was one of the 250 schools represented at Duquesne University. The 5th grade team placed ninth.
- Talent show practice and Geography Bee taking place.

Mr. Kleinhans and Mrs. Dziak (First Street and Cecil Elementaries) –

- Battle of the Books program being implemented at both schools.
- A Penny Drive for the Weather Program and the Fall Fundraiser are taking place at Cecil Elementary.
- First Street won a Highmark Healthy High 5 grant. They are also participating in a Food Drive and Spirit Week.

Mr. Daniels (Assistant to the Superintendent) –

- Highlights newsletter will be available online.
- First Street Elementary was selected by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Federal Programs, as a Title 1 Distinguished School in Pennsylvania. This is based on proficient and advanced student performance in math and reading.
- Question-Update on school buildings. Answer – On 1/20 there is a meeting to discuss the feasibility study.

Old Business

- Treasurers Report – The Parent Council bank account was closed and the \$77.86 balance was depleted by PNC in service fees due to lack of activity.
- Blue Sheet Question regarding tax id #. Answer - The parent organizations cannot use the Canon-McMillan tax id.

New Business

- Wylandville PFA gave update.

Adjournment – Jen O'Neill and Kathy Zukowski motioned meeting adjourned at 11:04am

The next general meeting will be held on February 18, 2011 at 9:30am at South Central Elementary

Minutes submitted by: Maureen Corwin