

Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes, October 1st, 2020

In attendance: Trish Evens, Susan Zottola, Audra Myerchin, Marielle Nelson, Kristin Ryerson, Ryan Thompson, Michele Napier, Renee Grant, Chelsea Daughtery, Jennifer McGowan, Amy Wels, Todd Neville, Marian Szewc,

Guests: Kim Hull, Selena Alderson, Kristin Hosfelt, Barret Sale, Casey Durbin, Kirk Kolb, Cassie Wilkins

Absent: Steve Monroe, Melanie Anderson, Mirinda Chatfield

- Trish asked the group for a vote to approve the September minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- Kim Hull and Selena Alderson were in attendance to discuss and answer questions about the new program they are using at the Middle School level called Character Strong. A Loom video link was sent to all PAC members prior to the meeting with a presentation and information about the program's curriculum.
 - Action Item: Character Strong; the group approved it unanimously.
- Trish discussed the Student Health Survey that is taken by 6th, 8th, and 11th grade students. She talked about the importance of the data and that it is used to better inform our district and state on how students are feeling. She said the survey will be given out in March 2021 and parents will receive a notice and will have the opportunity to preview the survey and opt out their students if they choose. Trish said the results from this survey help target student needs and prevention work. The survey will be offered to students online and will most likely be given during a student's Social Studies class.
- Kristin Hosfelt, Grants Pass School District 7's new Communication Specialist was present to get parent feedback on how we are doing as a district with communication and keeping families and people informed. Some of the feedback included:
 - Parents enjoy getting the links to multiple information sources in one email. They said the one stop shop is much more helpful and efficient than multiple emails.
 - Parents like that some schools are linking their newsletter to the emails
 - Parents would like to see more occasional check in from staff/teachers about their specific child
 - Parents really like the Remind app that staff at the Elementary level are using.
 - Some parents said that it is just too much info and too many emails. They would like to see more of a balance.
- Trish and Susan gave an update on how K-3 Hybrid and CDL are going;
 - Susan said from her perspective things seem to be going really well. There were a couple snags with check in/check out procedures the first couple of days, but everything seems to be flowing smoothly. She mentioned that teachers are reporting that students and mask wearing has not been as big of an issue as expected and that staff has done a wonderful job readjusting what curriculum looks like. She said students in 4th/5th grade CDL, seem to be doing well. She mentioned that attendance has been good for the students who are participating in the synchronous learning time.
 - Trish said that CDL started good, but there were several technical issues and user errors. She said we were bringing in help to support and help parents/staff/students navigate Canvas.
 - Ryan Thompson mentioned that things were going 200% better than distance learning in the spring. He said attendance was excellent, but it has been a challenge engaging students online. He mentioned it has also been hard engaging parents to keep students responding and focused.
 - Barret Sale gave his thoughts on how things were going at the Middle School level in CDL. He said that from his perspective, it seems to be going well and most kids are engaged. He said that staff needs to be trained on Go Guardian.
- Next meeting November 5th at 9:00 via Zoom