

District Parent Council
May 20, 2019
Kinawa 5-6

Attendance- John Hood, Steve Stierley, Lynne Thatcher, Amy Suhrheinrich, Liz Luyendyk, Karen Shapiro, Janet Philips, Sarah Finley, Niki Robinson, Kristin Arnett, Katie Cavanaugh

Welcome and Introductions - Lynne Thatcher

Principal's Report -Steve Stierley

- Direction of building for next year is surrounding Great Instruction using learning targets at beginning of class period and exit measures at end of class
 - G- Guided by performance Standard
 - R- Rigorous with research based practices
 - E- Engaging and Exciting
 - A- Assessed Continuously to guide instruction
 - T- Tailored (differentiated) in flexible groups
- Some Staff members are part of a few initiatives
 - AASI - African American Student Initiative
 - FAME - Formative Assessment of Michigan Educators
 - LAD - Language Across Discipline (teaching vocabulary across curriculums)
- Points of Pride
 - Science Olympiad team did extremely well in State Competition
 - Archery Program qualified for Nationals this well and shot extremely well. 150,000 participated and our top shooter was 120th. We have as many as 180 students participating and need more coaches.
 - Our Music Programs put on multiple amazing performances
 - Multiple Events organized and put on by our KPG (KKM, KGT, Science Night, Entrepreneur Night)
- 5th Grade Parent Survey- looking to make a smooth transition from 4th to 5th grade
- 4th Grade Parent Night at Kinawa is May 29
- Staffing at Kinawa
 - New 5th grade position due to incoming numbers
 - New ASD classroom teacher - 2 sections now
 - Staff movement throughout district
- DREAM is the theme for next school year. There is a program called LifeDreams that is part of the Legacy Project that we could use as a guide for things to do as a school. It also includes a short picture book full of inspiring quotes and illustrations.
- The link is <https://legacyproject.org/programs/lifedreams.html>.

DPC Business - Jill Dehlin, RN, MA, Certified Health Education Specialist

- PHASE (Personal Health And Sex Education)
- Overview of position and responsibilities for the district. Curriculum is online for preview. There are power point and google slides for each lesson. These resources make it easier to teach and have resources readily available.
- Shared Brochure "Guidelines for Board Members"
- DPC selects Board Members for PHASE which helps avoid bias. Term is a 3-year period but expire at different times. Member must be on board with abstinence based sex

education teaching and agree with the district's equity plan. Criteria based list is provided to DPC to help aide in selecting board members. Need a broad variety of viewpoints when making selection. Board represents a wide spectrum of opinions and viewpoints. Attendance is very important. Two open spots this year.

- Board is very well rounded and have great qualifications, meets regularly which keeps curriculum up to date. Curriculum starts at 4th grade.
- State laws are very precise for which we teach and do not teach.
- Okemos chooses to teach an abstinence based program.
- Provided handout with laws. See www.michigan.gov and/or www.okemosk12.net Click on "Academics", then the link for "Personal Health". The user name is PHASE. The passcode is OKPHASE2017.

Superintendent's Report - John Hood

- Thanked community for Bond approval. Turnout was up significantly and a strong yes vote. Architecture firm has been hired. Working on interviewing construction managers. Scheduling is next along with making a timeline. Looking for quality and timeliness will be a challenge. Goal for Bennett Woods will be the year after next.
- Devices are being ordered. New Phone system is being ordered as it is starting to fail and no longer supported by manufacturer.
- New AD Brian Fuller from Harbor Beach Schools.
- New Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Stacey Bailey from Tecumseh Schools. Montessori principal in process. Starting process for Building and Grounds. Transitioning some areas to new schools.

Board is working through budget but waiting on state's budget. June 30 is deadline for school budget but not knowing allotment as State budget not required until October 1st. Predictions is to have a surplus because we're growing. Priorities are adding counseling and behavioral supports, decrease fees, lacrosse, booster groups, wrestling at Chippewa and transportation changes. Most of these priorities stem from previous cuts. Will prioritize and present. Revise budget in October if needed. Board works very diligently to make best decisions.

LSJ article about bullying and districts are falling short....John shared that we do have an anti-bullying policy and explained protocol and how it is reported to the Board of Education. Our principals work very hard to address and resolve issues using a variety of methods. Bullying is different than teasing. Our Board is not hearing of instances that we are not addressing. Each district handles in their own way so it's frustrating that the article compared districts. Felt the reporter did not accurately portray Okemos. Does not believe the administrators would ever ignore incidents. Understanding the difference between teasing and bullying and being careful with the language used is important. We can always do better.

Board of Education Report - Sarah Wohlford -

Thanked everyone for voting for the Bond and explained the process of where they stand.

School Reports-

OHS – *Niki Robinson and Suzi Yunker*

Chippewa – *Karen Shapiro and Sibylle Thornton*

- Tuesday, 5/14 - Spring Choir Concert at OHS
- Wednesday, 5/15 - 7th Grade Band Trip to the Lugnuts game
- Thursday, 5/16 - 8th to 9th Grade Student Council Election Speeches
- Saturday & Sunday, 5/18 & 5/19 – MS Honors band to MacDonald Middle School
- Tuesday, 5/21 - Chieftain Challenge, 12:40 (rain date is 5/22)
- Tuesday, 5/21 - Orchestra Spring Concert, 7:30 CMS Auditorium
- Wednesday, 5/29 – Chippewa bands spring concert, 7:30 pm
- Thursday, 5/30 – CMS bands play at Honor Roll Track Meet, 5 pm
- Tuesday, 6/11 – 8th grade trip to Cedar Point, 6:15 am - 8:30 pm
- Tuesday, 6/11 – 7th grade trip to East Lansing Aquatic Center

Kinawa –*Sarah Finley and Niki Robinson*

Cornell – *Sarah Allen, Liz Luyendyk, and Melissa Cochran*

- 5-17-19 Mileage Club Family Run Night and PTO Silent Auction went very well
- Mrs. Pulter (2nd grade teacher) retiring - holding a reception for her
 - Punch with Pulter on the Cornell Playground - June 5th from 4-5pm
- 6-3-19 SOMEKO will be performing for 1st-4th graders at 10:35-10:55
- 6-10-19 Field Day
- We will not be having a Talent Show due to space restrictions.

OPM – *Kristin Arnett and Katie Cavanaugh*

- Central had a wonderful spring concert on Thursday. It was very cute and included black lights and the song Footloose.
- Some staff changes for the next year. 1st/2nd grade teacher Ms. Tori is going to Hiawatha and will be replaced by Holly Heie who is currently at Kinawa. Leslie Wertz, currently at Kinawa, will fill a 3rd/4th grade teacher spot. The interview process is almost complete for our new principal.
- Our Flash Dash fundraiser is coming up on June 10th.
- Playground improvements are coming this summer.

Bennett Woods – *Janet Philips and Jonathan Pickett*

- Fun Fair took place in April and was successful
- Mileage club has seen great participation

- Principal's report – currently in the process of interviewing/hiring three open positions (2 second grade teachers and 1 third grade teacher) pending board approval
- Family council approved teacher grants for chair pockets, science magazine subscription, learning center easel, activity rug, and stack stools

Upcoming events:

May 29- 4th grade visit to Kinawa

[Retirement Open House](#) 4 - 5:30 LMC (Mrs. Finnerty & Mrs. Heisler)

4th - 5th Grade Parent Information Meeting @ Kinawa 6:00 PM

30- Student BBQ Lunch

June: 4- 4th Grade to Aquatic Center

5- 4th grade Aquatic Center Rain date

6- 2nd Grade to Meridian Historical Village

7- Field Day

10- 2nd Grade author parties/end of year celebration

Hiawatha –Jen Nanzer and Carly Patel

- Hiawatha Happening fundraiser and silent auction was April 26th. We had a great turnout at the event and the silent auction continues to be a huge success. Thank you to all the volunteers and generous business in the area to help make it such a great event.
- Mileage Club continues to run this week and the students are really working hard to earn their toe tokens. Volunteers are still needed and always welcomed to help punch cards.
- Spring Scholastic book fair was April 29-May 3rd. Another successful book fair means new books for the library!
- May 15th we did a fundraiser at Launch on early release day from 3-5pm. This was the first time we tried this fundraiser and it was very easy to organize. The staff at Launch were very friendly and easy to work with. We had about 27 students participate and Launch will give the school 25% of the sales.
- May 21st 4th grade Lugnuts game
- May 21-23rd K camp @ Harris Nature Center
- May 24th Spirit Day – Crazy hair/hat day
- May 29th 4th grade to visit Kinawa and parent meeting 6:00pm
- May 31st Spirit Day – Pajama/comfy cozy day
- June 6th Kindergarten Hawks are Hatching concert
- June 7th Field Day 9:30-11:30 Volunteers still needed!
 - Also Spirit Day - Hiawatha/Okemos gear

New Business

Discussed the need for 1-2 building representatives for each building. Need a secretary and will explore co-presidents for next year.

Building representatives for 2019-2020

Hiawatha- Carly Patel
Central- Katie
Kinawa- Karen
Cornell-
OPM-
BW-Janet
Chippewa- Niki
OHS-
Cornell-

Officers for 2019-2020
(Sept 16 meeting)

PHASE application committee- chose members and set meeting expectations

Next Meeting: 2019-2020 School Year!

Email: Districtcouncil48864@gmail.com Website: www.okemosk12.net – Families – District
Parent Council