

Parent Key Communicators

February 25, 2025

Meeting Minutes

- I. Attendance: Dr. Dan Goffredo, Theresa Marsden, Khristina Hunt, Lauren Bixler, Tammy Hui, Stephanie Dougherty, Erin Robins, Meenakshi Krishnamurthy, Erica Kowal, Alison Shahravar, Caitlin Nikolayevsky, John Lego, Jessica Larkin, Tony Lin, Erin DeRafelo, Melissa Moore, Kerry Cavalcanto, Megan Waidelich
- II. Good News Sharing
 - a. Charlestown – Students are settled and developing relationships. Teachers are fostering positivity.
 - i. Dr. Goffredo noted it is the 100th year anniversary.
 - b. General Wayne – On January 31st held Family Feud turnout was great, PTO Talent Show scheduled for February 28th (55 acts scheduled).
 - c. K. D. Markley – Book Fair and Reading Across America (dress up week).
 - d. Sugartown – In the midst of Musicals.
 - e. 5/6 Center Intramural sports with Mr. Shemmer going well, Book Fair in April.
 - f. Middle School – New principal. Dr. Goffredo shared GVSD is currently conducting a search for an Assistant Principal. Many activities underway and upcoming such as a well-attended dance, Orchestra, Rock of Ages, Intramurals wrapping up, Heritage Festival upcoming then in Spring adding both grades 7 and 8 to field days.
 - g. High School – New Assistant Principal approved by Board on February 18, 2025. Many activities underway and upcoming such as Mr. Great Valley on March 13th, Prom on May 30th, Prom Closet looking for donations, Ms. Lutz was recognized by Franklin Mint, DECA is heading to Hershey State Competition, UN is competing in Philadelphia, music trip to California at the end of March, Achiever Banquet and HS musical ‘Funny Girl’ dates March 28th, 29th, 30th.
- III. Safety Updates
 - a. Interior doors locked. Feedback:
 - a. District’s goal is to lock a higher percentage of doors a higher percentage of the time. Addressing disruption concerns, if person is in line of sight of the teacher, students can open door **with teacher’s approval**. Exterior and interior locked doors are top in importance for safety – more locked doors better outcomes.
 - i. High School – request a reminder to teachers to put a positive spin on locked classroom doors.
 - ii. Classroom procedures working well; however, policy of allowing only 5 students at a time for bathroom was questioned during lunch.
 - iii. Safety video will be released within the next two weeks (3-4 min).
- IV. Snow Days/Flexible Instructional Days/Make-up Days
 - a. Current policy discussed. The intention of policy is to determine what is best for students.
 - b. School district will investigate use of some virtual snow days next school year, while maintaining traditional snow days.
 - i. Dr. Goffredo is networking with other superintendents to draw upon collective wisdom.
 - ii. Suggestion to research: split policy for Elementary versus Secondary
 - c. Discussion surrounding hard last day.

- i. Summer camps & flexible enrollment for camps is a huge variable for families.
- d. Confusion surrounding last day and current cycle day – highlighted on website.
 - i. Suggestion: Small video in August explaining policy that is easily accessible throughout the school year to prevent confusion.
 - ii. Suggestion: include updated last day of school in the school closing email.
 - iii. Dr. Goffredo inquired if anyone looks to media outlets – resounding no
- e. Discussion surrounding days versus hours
 - i. Act 80: Pennsylvania suspended 180 days requirement (most of Chester County is sticking with 180 days) but Pennsylvania never suspended the hourly requirement – GVSD goal is to make the most of education for students

V. K-2 iPads

- a. Khristina Hunt – family workshops/training iPad use.
 - i. Roll out 1st grade option to bring home next year.
 - ii. Summer remains optional.
 - iii. No negative feedback for opt in/out choice.
- b. Reading – Khristina shared percentages of students reading outside of school using iPads
- c. Math – Teaching & Learning – change in math curriculum:
 - i. Request more parent training (available to grades 5th and higher through Canvas).
 - ii. If student forgets iPad and is home for days – option log into ClassLink.
- d. Information gathering on the differences of how grades/teachers are utilizing iPads.
- e. iPad usage concerns of parents: screen time, content students are accessing is safe. Platform Lightspeed Parent Portal – can receive email updates of student’s access history.
- f. Suggestion: tech tips for parents that PKC can share on social media.
- g. Kids being tested via iPad – need more practice on iPad for testing

VI. School Pictures

- a. Legacy – feedback overwhelmingly negative.
 - i. Remedy: working to bring other options to the School Board of Directors.
 - ii. Spring pictures in addition but all class pictures in Fall.
 - iii. PTO Fall fundraiser – family pictures. All money is donated to PTO.

VII. Curriculum Related Topics

- a. Open to questions/topics into next year – can bring more team members for discussion.
 - i. MS Math 7th to 8th Algebra 1 - missing Pre-Algebra is a massive speedbump for some. Need more communication, resources for parents to help students.
 - 1. Need better clarification of math pathways specifically in curriculum in addition to parent teacher conferences.
 - a. PDF flowchart of Math Pathway in Middle School – not on website – better articulate it and graphic.
 - ii. Discussion surrounding Core Extensions.
 - iii. Discussion concerning course ‘Elevate You.’
 - iv. AI integrated Curriculum – future planning.
 - 1. Chester County AI subgroup investigating into MS/HS Curriculum: how to apply standards and the changing paradigm of how to learn.
 - 2. County group of superintendents to consolidate research.
 - v. Homework – Dr. O’Toole and subcommittee of the board working on homework.
 - vi. Report Card ongoing discussion.

- VIII. Law Enforcement – District policy is to cooperate with law enforcement.
- a. Discussed generally concerning local and state law enforcement
 - i. District does cooperate with local and state law enforcement and grants access to the Main Office.
 - ii. Immigration concerns. There is a plan. Principals are aware and Cabinet is available and trained to assist. Addressed with team in early January. Supporting families by answering specific questions.
 - iii. With ICE all office staff have protocols provided by our attorney.
 - 1. General overview:
 - a. Allow to enter if there is a judicial warrant required to honor after scanned and sent to the district’s attorney – if administrative warrant do not comply.
 - b. Principal will accompany and contact senior leaders in Cabinet.
 - c. All superintendents are sharing and working collaboratively. In event, a student is dropped at the bus and the parent removed, there are protocols in place.
- IX. Dr. Goffredo thanked everyone for their support and reiterated the district’s appreciation of the work of the Parent Key Communicators.
- X. Announcements
- a. Final meeting: 4/23/25 ****Reminder – this was rescheduled from 4/3/25****
 - b. Upcoming Speaker Series on 3/25 about vaping – “Clearing the Air”