Sippican School Council
Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2024

Attendance:

- In attendance: Lynn Dessert, Gregory Thomas, Kristina Callina, Ashley O'Brien, Ashley Sweatland, Amanda LeMarier, Kate Excellent (virtual), Melissa Rogers (virtual), Erica Prien
- Absent: Anna Ward, Barbara Moody

Meeting Minutes:

1. September Meeting minutes approval
2. Sippican student handbook: approved by School Committee
3. School Improvement Plan: approved by School Committee
4. School Community Updates
    a. VASE Events
        i. 5th and 6th grade Halloween party - success!
        ii. Fundraisers:
            1. Charlestown wrap fundraiser
            2. Restaurant night at Qdoba October 24th - portion of sales to support Camp Burgess trip
            3. Scholastic book fair November 4-6
        iii. ACE program
            1. Well-attended, well organized program - thanks to the volunteers!
    b. All-school meeting facilitation
        i. Principal and Vice Principal evaluating the timing, location, and content of the all-school meetings
        ii. A committee has been formed of staff and all-school meetings are on hold for now pending committee decisions
        iii. First committee meeting will take place by early November, all-school meetings and other family events will be announced for the new year (2025) or sooner
5. Budget process
    a. Budget for 2025-2026 being created now
    b. Supt Mike Nelson kicking off process in November
    c. Requesting second lunchtime monitor - can't be filled by volunteer position, requires confidentiality, consistency, staff-level security clearance
6. Parents - please make sure PowerSchool is up to date!!
    a. Personalized emails have gone out to families that are missing
    b. 30% of families/caregivers still need to update info
7. Future agenda items:
    a. PowerSchool and communication with families (S'Mores)
    b. Updates about Enrichment activities
8. Feinstein school updates:

    a. No Golden Ticket winner at Sippican yet!
    b. 2 grant opportunities ready to launch - will share at school committee meeting
        i. Kindness Tree; Food Pantry
        ii. Project 351 students involved in community service projects; led by Mrs. Lawrence
9. Bullying and Kindness
    a. Meanness vs. bullying: meanness is being addressed, so far bullying incidents are down from last year (bullying is different from mean comments, see definition in handbook)
    b. Positive response to 3 to Be (respectful, responsible, kind), morning video meetings (school-wide zoom); student involvement