

Parents & Teachers of Eastview (PTE) Minutes of January 13, 2014

7:06 P.M. – Meeting called to order

Kelly Jatczak called the meeting to order and welcomed all of the parents, administrators and guests. She provided the minutes from the December 2nd PTE meeting for review and opened the floor to questions. One amendment was offered to correct the spelling of the name Amy Spencer in the minutes. Amy Spencer then moved to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Cindy Carvey seconded – 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention – motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

A current ledger of PTE income and expense was provided to all in attendance. Kelly Jatczak went over the ledger, providing explanation of the recent transactions which included \$126.76 deposit from Escript, and a \$350 expense for the annual tax filing fee. Cindy Carvey moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Sandy Martin seconded -- 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention – motion carried.

Special Guest Speakers

Kelly Jatczak welcomed Dr. Debbie Kling, Secondary Grading Professional Development Facilitator and Mr. Robert Kling, Streamwood Foreign Language and International Studies Academy Chairman. They presented a short presentation on Secondary Grading Practices. Mr. Kling gave a historical perspective on how the changes to the Secondary Grading policies and procedures came about and Dr. Kling then explained how the grading procedure was to work. Some key points from their discussion included:

- All teachers are to assign some kind of grade to all tests and assignments.
- A grade percentage doesn't really tell you what concepts your child has mastered and what concepts they might be missing. The new grading is going to change that and give feedback where the simple percentage grade will not.
- Mr. Kling went on to say that 4 years ago a call to committee went out to look into Common Core and grading practices. The committee put together a series of principles, based on what other districts have done. These principles were pushed out without adequate Professional Development on the principles. So, that being said, they are going back to the beginning and this year try to do more education, etc. so that the teachers and parents better understand and use the new policies. Late work policies were all set at all schools and in all departments. They set consistent policies within departments. Assignments are there to teach the mastery of the concepts.

The floor was then opened to Q&A.

Q: Sandy Martin: Parents don't understand until they see the report cards at the end of a quarter. Seems like the new grading was to motivate and help students grow.

A: Mr. Kling: They were not necessarily meant to help students grow, but to standardize how the grades were reported.

Q: Cindy Carvey: Why didn't we standardize the percentage scale not change the style ?

A: Dr. Kling: Think back to your grade school report cards and the way they graded with “meets expectations” “exceeds expectations”

A: Mr. Kling: Common Core State Standards are where we are going – it is all going to be aligned. They are working with Information Services to include Behavior and Academic grades. The teachers need to grade to the learning targets.

A: Dr. Kling: Teachers are going to be evaluated on how their students are showing growth.

A: Mr. Kling: Teacher/Student/Administrator assessments are coming to change the degree of rigor and how students are graded.

A: Dr. Kling: Class sizes are staying the same for the next year. Data shows that only class sizes of less than 17 students or more than 34 students make a difference in student learning.

Parent suggestions included more rigor in classes, parent “universities” on Common Core and secondary grading to better explain the policies, and better communication.

After Dr. and Mr. Kling completed their Q&A and left, the general meeting continued as usual.

Committee Reports

There was no CAC report.

Cindy Carvey reports that our Chili’s No Cook nights went well and we have a check coming from Chili’s for approximately \$158. Cindy will look into our next No Cook nights being at Panera Bread.

Administrator’s Report

Mr. Donner informed the group that Explore test results went home today with students. He will answer parent questions at the February meeting. He also spoke to the recent death of a 7th grader at the bus stop on the first day of second semester. He couldn’t divulge the student’s name or if there were health issues, but he did say that the District deserved Kudos for providing a response team and making sure that all of the students were made aware of the availability of counselors if they felt they needed to talk. Any students who wished to attend the funeral were allowed to leave school to attend.

Old Business

The PTE will be looking for members to step up and fill board positions for next year as several of the current board members will not be returning.

New Business

The next PTE meeting will be on Monday, February 3, 2014.
Any agenda items should be forwarded to Kelly Jatczak.

Amy Spencer moved to adjourn the meeting . Gigi Bendis seconded -- 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention – motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 P.M.