

District Council
Minutes
Nassau Conference Room
September 22, 2015
3:00

Attendees: Cindi Batistoli (elementary teacher rep), Julia Caldwell (student rep), Joan Cox (community rep), John Farrell (elementary principal rep), Steve Malkischer secondary school principal rep), Kerry Maslyn (Todd parent rep), Leah Mozeshtam (student rep), Natalie Palome (support staff rep), Cathy Porco (Nassau parent rep) Lois Powell superintendent), Vickie Setzer (HS parent rep), Caroline Sung (Hagan parent rep), and Mark Van Horne (secondary school teacher rep)

- We began with introductions.
- Vickie Setzer explained that it is harder and harder to get parents to serve as volunteers because several people have told her that they feel that their input is not taken when they do serve on committees. She provided a couple of examples. Lois explained that every situation can be different and asked that Vickie give her a complete list of the examples she has so that Lois may investigate each matter and report back. Cindi mentioned that maybe it is a matter of poor communication to committee members about outcomes and actions taken or not taken. Lois stated that we need to address the perception and make parents feel that participation is worthwhile. Vickie also explained that the community is very frustrated that they receive no responses from the Board when the Board is contacted.
- Lois shared the committee's self-assessment results from last June. The committee seems to be functioning well. Let Lois know if there is any item that would like to see us work to improve.
- Lois shared the work of last year's sub-committee of District Council that worked on the parent survey. The sub-committee identified areas of concern district-wide from the results of last year's survey and developed a new set of custom questions, which are being administered this fall. After some discussion regarding the areas of concern, it was decided that we look at the results of this year's survey before deciding how to handle the concerns from last year. Additionally, Lois will add whatever areas of concern she can to the district strategic plan and present this to the Council at the next meeting.
- Lois explained that the District, via the Council, is required to review our shared decision-making plan every two years, and that this will be required in January. She distributed several documents to help the Council perform this task: the current Shared Decision-Making Plan, the site team self-assessment document,

and the results of each site team's self-assessment. We will address this at our next meeting. In the meantime, Lois asked that the Council review the documents and she will get them the questions we will have to address for the biennial review.

- We agreed on the following meeting dates: December 8, March 15, June 7 (Mark indicated at the end of the meeting that the June meeting is fine). All meetings will be held at Nassau at 3:15.
- Next agenda: biennial review of shared decision-making plan, parent-survey follow-up, follow-up to parent volunteer matter.