

# School Council

## Meeting

January 2, 2020

Meeting commenced at 3:40

1. Student email access
  - a. Current Practices and Possible Changes
    - i. A few parents wanted to know why 5th grade students don't have email access; Angie asked for feedback from the Council
    - ii. The request had to do at least partially with students being able to email with their teachers.
    - iii. Karen said that at that age her kids would use her email to communicate with teachers.
    - iv. Melissa felt that students at that age need to learn more about face-to-face communication.
    - v. Delaney said that there's a function of PlusPortals that allows email contact with teachers.
    - vi. There is a function of Google Classroom that allows that also.
    - vii. There should probably be more teacher training about what Google Classroom can do.
    - viii. The consensus is, "no"; instead teach teachers and students how to use the tools they already have.
  
2. Massachusetts Family School and Community Partnership Fundamentals
  - a. Examination of the Tool
    - i. The Council has spoken about how to possibly use this tool: how do we measure parent involvement: homework!
    - ii. Next year's School Improvement Plan could include elements
    - iii. There are three different levels, from beginner to expert.
    - iv. Angie likes that it's not all about the number of people who are at PA meetings, but other kinds of involvement as well that may allow us to reach parents in different ways
    - v. The focus is on ways that the tool can be used to improve the involvement.
  - b. Moving Forward
    - i. Mary pointed out that the description in the tool actually includes things that we do our own version of.
    - ii. Delaney agreed that some things we already do would fit into certain categories.
    - iii. Some issues, like promoting parent leaders, is something we should work on moving to the next level.

c. Next steps

- i. There are many good sections to this tool, that could be very helpful to our parents.
- ii. One thing we are working on that's now in the SIP is EOMs and how they're done at each level.
- iii. There is a lot of discussion going on that parents assume we know about (i.e. the Facebook page), and so officially we don't know about these issues, how do we provide families with a place for these discussions?
- iv. We have lots of good ideas but implementing them is where things get sticky.
- v. Angie would like the Council to come up with a plan. She's going to ask the Assistant Principals about how things work on their levels already so that we can give parents a starting point for parental involvement
- vi. She suggested that the members can write in a "Comments" column of the document that she will create to give a starting point for discussion.
- vii. Angie will send an email asking members to work on the parent involvement piece.

Meeting ended at 4:30

Attending:

Angie Pepin

Delaney Alden

Daniel Faivre

Mary Carter

Karen Boyle

Caroline Boyle

Derek Powers

Melissa Freitas

Geoff Peterson

