

PTAC District-Wide Meeting: November 18, 2014

In attendance: Beth Raccio—Sheehan; Michael Voto—BOE; Peter Angelastro—Yalesville/Highland; Greg Allen—Parker Farms; Kristine Friend—Principal, Cook Hill; Jonathan Chappell—Moran; Tammy Raccio—Moran; Karen Hlavac—BOE; Amy Foreman—EC Stevens/Pond Hill; Cheryl Wolansky—Lyman Hall.

Presentation: Great School Partnerships

--An informational Discussion:

Mastery based learning: grant fund to support process: Looking at Wallingford K-12, not just 1 segment of district. MBL: How thinking impacts work; how can work impact district? Meet with Supt. and faculty, admin, parents, BOE members, students—map out steps of plan and work out barriers and obstacles. What works best for Wallingford? Menu of options: grad requirements: what does this look like? Cross-curricular competencies; what does this look like in each subject K-12? Indicator level: rubrics, demonstrating mastery. Multi-year process—not absolute agenda—sharing information. A 16-member team in Wallingford is working together on this process.

60% of kids taking remedial classes in our country over 50% take more than 4 years to graduate

Planning for Proficiency-Based Learning: link to website:

<http://www.greatschoolspartnership.org/wallingford-public-schools/>

Policy (District); Practice (student experience); Teacher support/professional development; Community Engagement (public will); What is tolerance level of parents/town? Parents can help design effective strategy

Student Experience: What is happening in school? Parents often hear only when there are struggles & successes.

MBL: 4 Components: 1. Clear outcomes; 2. Multiple/flexible pathways—student ownership 3. System of accountability: valid assessment—scoring criteria developed by teachers in district; 4. Supports—for all students.

Proficiency-Based Learning Simplified: what will report card look like?

Alignment & refinement: teachers in Wallingford already working on this; not feeling this is a “change”.

Colleges & Universities looking for a school profile not just the grades.

School based PTAC: Sheehan One Fund Wallingford: funding technology in Wallingford—creating an event: Picnic in White: will be a community meeting in Jan/Feb. Group is looking for participants from Lyman Hall. Jenni French is heading up this committee and interested participants may contact her at her email: JWDFRENCH@gmail.com

Alcohol awareness Buttons from a different town were distributed to the group: Parents who Host Lose the Most: the group discussed the possibility of creating these/similar buttons for the Wallingford community. The button will be brought to Craig Turner @YSS.

Parent Ambassador Group met 11/17. “Cheat sheet” information about each school will be available to parent ambassadors. The idea is that potential/new families will have a tour of their school and meet with the ambassador and answer questions. Parent ambassadors are looking at schools websites and confirming information on sites. In late winter there will be an orientation for the ambassadors.

School Safety committee: A Wallingford police officer was at last committee meeting. It was reported that if cars cross bus line, bus drivers will bring the report directly to PD. There continues to be on-going discussion regarding the installation of cameras on buses.

Dress Code Committee: This committee is looking at dress code practices in our schools. Committee members are collecting info/data. Mission is to address dress code in district. Open-ended discussion at this point. The next meeting will be Tues Nov. 25 @5:30 at BOE offices.

ECE committee held on Wed 11/19 @4pm at BOE offices. Committee says that their goal is to have their report ready for the instructional meeting—people who have questions/issues should come to the instructional meeting

Parent Budget forum 11/24 in Town council chambers before regular Town council meeting.

Strategic Plan meeting: will reflect new ideas in 5-year plan. Budget workshop set for Saturday, Jan 24th.

Minutes from October 21st meeting were accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm

Next District-wide PTAC is Tuesday, Dec. 18 6pm