

**SYSTEM-WIDE PARENT TEACHERS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – CONFERENCE ROOM  
43 HALL AVENUE, WALLINGFORD**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014**

**AGENDA**

**Present: Tammy Raccio (Moran), Nicholas Passariello(Highland/Yalesville), Greg Allen (Cook Hill/Parker Farms), Beth Raccio (Sheehan), Karen Hlavac (BOE), Shawn Parkhurst, Peter Angelastro (Highland/Yalesville), Christine Lion (Dag), Amy Foreman (Pond Hill), Jonathan Chappell (Moran), Kate O'Donnell (WEA), Katherine Chordas (MYB)**

1. Call to Order – 6:06 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes of September 16, 2014  
  
Christine Lion- made a motion to approve  
Greg Allen- seconded  
Minutes approved by all members of the SWPTAC
3. Election of 2014-2015 Officers  
Chairperson: Tammy Raccio  
Vice chairperson: Jonathan Chappell
4. Status update of school based PTACs including website updates, SW representatives (all schools represented)- Nick Passierello, Peter Angelastro
5. Strategic Plan Update
  - ◆ Next Steps
  - ◆ Capital Expenditures UpdateMeeting is Thursday, revised draft to BOE in November
6. Work Group Updates
  - ◆ Review Next Meeting dates for Work Groups
  - ◆ Discuss Potential New Work Groups
    1. School ambassador program- parents available to answer questions for new parents to the district- next meeting November 17, 2014
    2. Standards Based Grading- report card on hold as competency work developed (change to Competency Communication committee)
    3. School Bus Safety- Cameras proposed outside of buses to catch cars passing buses illegally, sends info to police department- Company who provides the program has had issues in other towns, not reputable, had a number of “red flags”- No alternative, waiting to see if program does become successful in other towns (such as Cheshire who is still working on implementing the

program) Citizens call, but don't provide enough information. (will come off the list after next meeting)- next meeting October 27, 2014

4. Technology Fundraiser- onefundwallingford- planning a big fundraising event- White Party (sometime in May- bring your own food- location is a surprise until the day of the event- buy tickets in advance)- meeting again after the first of the year
5. PTAC rebranding- from Parent SEE, how do you make opportunities to be involved in school and have a voice available to new parents- next meeting November 19, 2014
6. School Uniforms- any interest in a group?- survey to gauge interest- call it School Dress Code committee- Jonathan Chappell and Greg Allen are first 2 members

#### 7. New Business

- ◆ Full Day Kindergarten Status- Only Wallingford and Plainfield have 0% of students offered full day kindergarten, curriculum and finance could be separate or combined, last year seemed to focus on finance, want to work on more of a report/ presentation for the Board about what it would look like, Canton task force plan was referenced, how to make sure it is added to the strategic plan budget, early childhood committee has recommended flipping the phase-in to start with full day and moving it backwards to pre-school, parents expressed feelings that full-day kindergarten needs to stay in the budget and remain up for consideration

- ◆ Parent University- proposal to hold this at a district level instead of individual schools, needs a large committee to organize, can use climate surveys to rank issues of interest, since CCS workshops were so poorly attended (as many as 10 as few as 1), can video be streamed for parents at home, communication about events could be improved by people spreading the word

#### 8. Unfinished Business

- ◆ Status of Parent conference communications- schools were revising parent conference notices to make parents seem more welcome, LHHS sending out tweets to remind parents

- ◆ Update on Capstone Project Pilot- November 7, curriculum writing on Crash Course in Creativity which will run in the spring

9. Review future guests- November meeting- representative from Great Schools Partnership, John Ingram, to talk about competency-based learning, Shawn will share information

10. School based PTAC Roundtable- School PTAC updates- Dag- nothing district level Pond Hill: Stevens- transportation and bussing, cafeteria, SBAC, OLSAT and IRLA- parents want more information- inside bus camera questions- have they been used, Highland-Yalesville- picture company, 2015-2016 can be aligned, will come to Operations committee at BOE, prices and offerings varied- Cook Hill/ Parker Farms- talked about trying to combine PTAC/ PTO, talked about healthy snacking- Moran- short meeting with financial planner, next month joint meeting

November 20 at HUBCAP with Kim McLoughlin- PPS PTAC- scheduling of Spanish for special education students, stigma attaches to students who do not have language in their schedule- can it be a choice? particularly for students who feel stigmatized, how will not having a foreign language experience, Special Education fair at Toyota Oakdale October 28 6-9 pm

11. Adjournment (Next meeting date: November 18, 2014)