

Parker Farms Cook Hill PTAC

Meeting called to order 6:00pm

Attendees: Stephanie Cerrato, Bryan Rivard, Kristine Friend, Christina Sagnella, Jennifer Wolff, Bill Roland, Jessica Hodum, Melissa Lohr, Melanie Abissie, Jenny Cabral, Vivian Dominguez Griswold

1) June 2017 Minutes were reviewed and accepted.

2) **Officers-** Officers were determined for the 2017/18 Parker Farms Cook Hill school year. Bryan Rivard was nominated for Chairperson and accepted. Stephanie Cerrato was nominated to be Vice Chairperson and accepted and Jenny Cabral was nominated to be Secretary and accepted.

3) **Climate Survey Results and School Improvement Plans**

Both Principal Friend and Principal Sagnella discussed the results of the Climate Survey for CH and PF. The number of families that took the survey did go up, but they would like to see it go up even more. Suggestions to see that happen were having survey available at a PTO family night or at evening conferences, possibly sending home more hard copies of the survey and/or having a raffle connected to completing the survey. In regards to having the survey available at a family night, the suggestion came up to have a high school student come and oversee it.

Discussion focused on a few areas that needed improvement, per the survey. It appears communication needs to go up between parents and teachers. One suggestion was to ask parents what their goals are for their kids in the beginning of the year then follow up on it in the middle of the year, not just at the end. Mrs. Friend shared that one of her teachers allows her parents to share "compliments and concerns" at the end of every week. This allows issues to be resolved faster. Mrs. Sagnella feels that the concept of "Reach Out" to your teacher should be spread out to all parents so the school year can be more successful.

Discussion also focused on the importance of communication with other staff members, for example the nurse. It was suggested that the nurse could maybe send home a quick note with the child if they were in the nurses office for any reason that day.

Another issue from the survey that was discussed was "group of students in the school who exclude others and make them feel bad". This is a number that everyone felt should be lower and continues to be a focus of both schools. Second Step is being used at PF and CH. Bullying Units within Second Steps has been rolled out at PF. Lunch and recess is where you see a lot of the issues taking place and to help prevent it the recess staff is being trained to help stop it. Recess is also in the process of being restructured for the kids so they can better socialize and be active.

4) **"Being Trauma Informed" follow-up**

Stephanie reminded everyone about the presentation and that every child goes through some form of trauma. Even small trauma events can effect a child at school. Heather McDonnell was invited to come back this year at our February PTAC meeting. She may possibly do Family Yoga.

5) System Wide Update

New food service director looking for feedback, survey going to come out soon. Director looking into "Farm to School", meaning he will work with local farms to get fresh food.

There were 94 nominations for Parent Choice Award. This year there will be a ceremony.

"Civility Policy" was discussed. This is a new policy being put into place to remind all about respecting each other and having verbal boundaries. There is a debate about policy and how it will be enforced.

PTAC will be breaking into smaller groups to handle some of the issues.

Meeting adjourned 7:04 pm