



## Cooper Landing School

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“Specialists in Quality Learning”

Minutes: PAC Meeting, December 10, 2013, 9 AM

In attendance: Tommy Gossard, Shannon Ryan, Michael Hanson, Virginia Morgan, Heather Harrison, Michelle Quinn, Sarah Miller, Jessica Larsen, Heather Pearson, Susanna LaRock, Tasha Jeffords

Meeting began at 9:06 AM.

Skiing: Paperwork for parents to fill out will be sent home today. If you need help with weight and height, the school can help as they have a scale with a ruler. Any other questions on how to fill out the forms, ask Tommy. The out-of-pocket cost will be \$20/student; PAC will cover the rest. Dates are perfect with no intrinsic school conflicts: Thursdays, Feb 20, Feb 27, Mar 6, Mar 20, Apr 10, Apr 17.

Michael asked if the school uses Google Calendar on its website. No, we don't, but it's a good idea. She will talk to Heidi about how to implement it.

For winter break, the last day students are in school is Thursday, December 19. They return to school on Monday, January 6.

The holiday program is December 19, the last day of school, starting at 5:30 PM sharp, followed by a community potluck and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Shriners have stepped in again to provide a bag of toys for the kids to choose from.

Michael gave an extensive report on the reflection forms. Mrs. Hingley didn't have a chance to develop a structure around using the forms, and Michael is now helping to make them more effective. They are not supposed to be a punishment, but rather a tool for behavior modification, together with positive reinforcement for good behavior. Since we are in a period of change, having gone from just a handful of students a couple of years ago to maybe 22 next year, we really need a structure for behavior in place in the school, so that we can adapt to behavior issues that may arise. She will do her best to fill the role of principal so the teachers don't have to do so. We should contact her whenever needed as she wants to see a lot of open communication.

Some points she made:

- When we need to discuss our child's performance with Tommy or Shannon, schedule an appointment. Don't just stop by, don't have the conversation during instructional time, and don't discuss your child in front of other children. It's respectful all around.
- If an administrator needs to be involved in the discussion, please reach out to Ms. Hanson or her directors. She gave contact information to reach her office, her director, and the director of K-12 schools.

- Make sure to focus on good behavior, not just negative. Celebrate successes, get good calls home, not just bad ones. Praise is very effective.
- Reflection forms are the third step. First, a student gets a verbal warning. Then his/her name on the board. Then the form, to be filled out in a quiet spot in the classroom, not in the office. A fourth time gets a call home with the student reporting his/her behavior.
- The reflection forms are a way for the student to create his/her own plan for behavior modification. Praise their plans, help them implement it so they can succeed. Support them and work with them in a non-demeaning way to overcome the behavior issue.
- As parents too, we need to work positively with our children to get them past problems, not just punish them for what went wrong. Support their plans for behavior improvement.

Susanna brought up the need for the adults in the school to get training on using the same principles we expect the children to follow: kindness, safety, self-control, doing our best, showing respect for all. (We could all use a reflection form every now and then.) Some discussion ensued on how to provide that.

We were all given five sheets detailing the structure around the reflection forms.

The students were then given time with Ms. Hanson for her to explain the structure around the usage of reflection forms, and the PAC moved to the gym.

Our PAC fund balance is \$4039.63, including \$69.38 given from the school for the shirts. To clarify the \$1021.00 donation from last month through Community Schools, the total also included \$250 as a private donation from a law firm, thanks to Heather Pearson. \$1400.00 from the PAC fund (14 students x \$100) will be used to pay the remainder of the skiing lesson fees. There was general agreement to support the Second Saturday Markets more as a PAC.

Jessica brought up the need for an appreciation party for past and present Emergency Services volunteers, and that the PAC might be a good group to help organize it, we being parents of small children who appreciate having ambulance and EMT service in town. It was agreed that the Seniors also highly appreciate the service, and we will schedule a meeting with them to plan an appreciation party for the CLES volunteers. Jessica will call Mona and Mayme; tentative schedule for a planning meeting is January 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM at Senior Housing, immediately following the January PAC meeting.

December 20<sup>th</sup> is an In-Service day, and it is the only day that will work for Nana to host the school children at her home for cookies as she likes to do. Tommy will contact her about having an open-house style invitation for that day, for parents to bring their children by Nana's home.

We discussed that the St. Patty's dinner needs to be on the January agenda, and to make sure that we are highly organized and work very well and appreciatively with Mary Louise at Sunrise. Since Spring Break is the week before, we will have to plan ticket sales well and have our plans in place.

Our next meeting is January 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 AM.