



Cooper Landing School

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“Specialists in Quality Learning”

PAC Meeting Minutes 5-6-2014

In attendance: Heather Harrison, Virginia Morgan, Jessica Larsen, Susanna LaRock, Heather Pearson, Michael Hanson, Dominic Bauer, Tommy Gossard, Shannon Ryan, Heidi Chamberlain, Tasha Jeffords, Michelle Quinn

End of year picnic is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st. Moose Pass and Hope will be here. Looking for people to man the grill, set up tables, other basic setup duties. 10:30-1:30. Games, lunch at 12:00, water games, send everyone home early.

Monday 19th 1:00, Author’s Tea and Kindergarten Graduation. Does anyone have fabric for the written and illustrated books? We’ll put it on Crier or ask quilters.

May 17th Snail-a-thon. More discussion to follow.

May 13th Kindergarten Orientation, 10:00-1:30. Michael will host the parents for coffee, questions, introductions. Perhaps she will use the portable for this? Will arrange a space away from the kids.

Next year’s registration: sometime the week before school starts, come in for an hour and fill in everything. Anytime between 9 and 2 the whole week, at your own convenience. Heidi will let us know what we need to bring to fill out the paperwork.

Equinox run is scheduled for September 20th. Heidi will start spreading the word, put up flyers, etc. There will be a raffle again this time. It will be about the same as last year, maybe a little route change up high. For prizes we’ll use hats, big fishing bag, try not to draw too much on the local businesses to supply raffle. We’ll do split the pot again, and the first people from each race win the prizes.

Principal’s Report:

Thank you for participating in the school lunch surveys that were sent out. Michael definitely got a different perspective than the feel she had originally. We can look at different breakfast-lunch options. She sent the survey results to Dean Hamburg. There are different ways to run the program to meet the needs of individual schools, to make it fit us. She will compile survey results and get them out.

Next Michael asked if the model of the second teacher met our goals and expectations. First it was explained that we can’t technically meet publicly and talk about our teachers. We have to follow some ground rules. Even when the intent is to compliment, it can still be open for dispute in an open discussion. We don’t want to put anyone, us or employees, in a position to be talked about positively or negatively. We can talk about pros and cons, but we can’t give names or give examples that are identifying. We need the opportunity to share and discuss, but she’ll put questions out in a survey. That’s not a public meeting, and we can share specifics as needed that way. We may meet on the

morning of the last day of school to hear from Michael a summary of what she's learned from the survey she sends out.

After this explanation we were asked for general pros and cons about the second teacher model.
Comment summary:

Heather H: more organized, her kids know where they are supposed to be and what they are supposed to be doing, especially at the end of the day.

Michelle: having two teachers, it FEELS like it's easier for everyone.

Susanna: It's been nice to have a split between ages.

Heather P: the split between ages was a con in her opinion, less of a family feeling, too divided. Likes Hope's model of subject separation.

Virginia and Susanna: like the age separation of lunch and recess, but classroom separation may be negative.

Virginia: we originally talked about keeping the small school feel, with movement and ebb and flow of students and process. We need to keep that unique feel, not stuck in desks.

Heather P: let's not divide students just by grade level, but be able to work at their own unique level. 2nd grader doing 4th grade math, etc.

Michael: Hope's division happened because of what the teachers were highly qualified to teach. It just worked that way. Here Tommy is K-8, so is Shannon, but Shannon has lots of qualifications in high school subjects. For next year we are trying to have more onsite teaching and less distance learning.

Virginia: the interactions coming from distance learning have been very positive. We shouldn't let that go.

Michael: nice thing is the flexibility to make the education fit the student. Some students can't sit in front of a computer and learn, but some can. We can ask the kids how they want to take specific courses. Just putting everyone in distance education without individualization will not work. We need to make sure that we have onsite education available for as many classes as we can. It also keeps funding here, instead of at distance locations. We want the best of everything we can. Here kids can get one on one or linking into big classes. Best of both worlds.

Tommy: we lined out for the older kids all the classes they could take and how and when, scheduling and availability. It was very productive.

Noted that the dynamic may change drastically next year with so many kindergarteners. Our divisions between teachers and subjects will have to change. They've been talking about switching rooms for next year, cleaning up the small room for Polycom. Bathroom in the classroom is also handy for little guys. Easier for big kids to walk through another classroom quietly than the other way around.

Virginia: There is a con, in that there is less space with 2 teachers.

Michael: we are gaining space by the day just by organization, cleaning up, improving the placement of things. We can be efficient, look at some models, see how we can make it work. What should it look like, how can it be the best organized space for our kids?

Heather P: Can Michael consider scheduling consistent office hours here? Even if it's just an hour a week, we will know that we can access her. Would like to see PAC working with Michael more.

Michael: will have to have a calendar of when she CAN be here, but there's no way to do it on a weekly schedule. Month-to-month scheduling, bi-weekly, may work. Crazy schedule, not often in the office. Will try to be here for a whole day, in Hope for a full day, instead of trying to split one day between both schools.

Heather P: will have a lot more follow-through if we know how to communicate. Google calendars never happened, things we talk about in the PAC get dropped.

Michael: if she leaves things hanging, let her know! She needs things written down. Next year she doesn't have the Youth Facility, hopes for no mid-year changes.

Noted that KPBSD is in beta testing for an app for smart phones. Will make Google calendars somewhat unnecessary. You can subscribe to a school and get updates, access grades. Only in app form. She thinks you can also access everything through Google calendar or school webpage instead of through app.

End of this discussion.

PAC fund balance: \$4583.40. St Patrick's Day Net Profit=\$1842.07. Last year \$1918.82. We made a little less, even though we sold more tickets. Fewer donations, less money from corned beef bought back. Once corned beef money comes in, it will be close to next year. We're happy with it, but need to pay more attention to our record-keeping when selling corned beef.

We need archived minutes from past year on our website so we can access it. Got misplaced, we will get them back on.

Mary Louise gave us back \$60 for onions & potatoes we didn't use. Waiting on some money for bags of corned beef. Have received \$35 so far. There's an accounting problem going on? May not be able to fix the loss.

Dominic says that the last day of this season, his proceeds will go to the school. He always has leftover food, wants to help the school with it. Will be advertised.

We feel that we have enough money so that we don't have to always talk about doing more fundraisers. Community Schools has really helped with that, given us a big boost.

Next Saturday market is on May 10th. What can we do to support it? Get PAC and kids involved. It needs more publicity, support and enthusiasm. Whatever we can do to help that, we should do. Hope Quinn will do a Snail-a-Thon volunteer table, get open slots filled. Have T-shirts there too. This market they are focusing on Mother's Day – get the kids out of the house and let mom have quiet time. Having crafts for kids to make for mom. In general, we need more ideas to get word out about Second Saturday Market better. Susanna writes it out in the Turnagain Times, it goes on the Crier. It is nice to have food to sell. Maybe just a coffee station by donation, unmanned.

Snail-a-thon: Michelle made subcommittees to the main committee that Heather H and Michelle co-chair. Virginia heads up food committee. Susanna heads up mile checkers. Tommy brought them to the school. Janet Mitchell will be a mile checker and will ask the Seniors too. Heather P is heading the publicity committee. Site prep committee is Tasha Jeffords: clear out brush, spruce site up. Will take out firewood in the morning so it won't be stolen. We still need a picnic site committee lead: gather firewood and matches, setting up tables, make firepit. Also set-up and clean-up committee needs lead. Barbara from Eagle Landing has volunteered to help with mile checking, might help with food (bringing potato salad). Kristin may help with setup and site prep? Need to ask. Maybe Sarah? Maybe Shannon? Jessica L. declined due to schedule and workload. Heather H. will take picnic site delegation responsibility on. Michelle will take setup and cleanup delegation responsibility. We will put volunteer needs on the Crier: Heather P, Michelle and Heather H will help write it.

Prizes at Snail-a-thon: four ice cream coupons for each category winner + T-shirt. Rabbit may make a new trophy for this year. Food is potluck except for hot dogs.

Brief meeting next week to make sure everything is coming together? By email? Michelle and Heather H will have a meeting together, and they will check with people beforehand; will see where they are at. Wednesday 14th at beginning of school, 9am.

Greenhouse: Susanna put out a Crier message for starts without much response. Will put out another now that it's closer. If worse comes to worse, she will buy starts. Perhaps asking for a specific list will help. Or a request to contact Susanna directly if you PLAN to donate. Virginia got the potatoes and Heather P got the peas. Heather P has 4 tomatoes and 4 or 5 cucumber starts.

Michael provided a summary of the lunch program survey. 10 people responded. Questions with responses:

How interested are you in a lunch program? 50% answered in interested range; 70% interested in breakfast; Lunch and breakfast? 45% interested

Would like to know more about free and reduced? 30% yes

How often would your child eat breakfast? 20% never, 20% 1-2 times/wk, 40% 3-5, 20% everyday

How often would your child eat lunch? 50% lunch 10% 1-2, times/wk, 20% 3-5, 20% every day

Suggestions and comments on the program: breakfast is important, we need to respond to allergies and sensitivities. We are interested in whole foods, local, high quality. Depending on what energy we have to put into it, we could potentially do something unique.

Michael will report survey results on the district level. They are aware of us considering it.

It was discussed that there are a number of reasons to fill out the Title I income paperwork; when we fill it out it puts us in a certain status depending on the info they get. Scholarships, teacher paybacks, e-rate prices for internet, etc. More layers than we might know. It helps the school qualify for certain benefits. No federal mandates or strings attached specifically to it.

We expressed concerns about filling out income paperwork – need more privacy, get it straight to the district office instead of through local hands.

We looked at food program menus; after more consideration, let Michael know if there's a change in your opinion from the survey results.

Big discussion about taking the food issues and running with them. Start the kids on it as a project – have it come from them! Research grants, ways to get funding. Lots of grants for school gardens. Take our gardening to a new level. Stay off the processed food wagon.

Adjourned at 10:52