PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 5, 2013, 6:00 PM

Tusculum Elementary School

Family Resource Center (FRC)

Minutes

1. Re-introduction
2. Review last meeting: Priority Parent Involvement
   1. In our last meeting the group agreed that parent involvement is a priority the FRC. Parent involvement allows parents to provide each other and the school with the support needed to help our students grow.
3. Parent Involvement Activities
   1. Next Coffee and Culture March 14th- Hispanic
      1. These are going very well. Parents are coming to school and meeting each other.
   2. Grade Level Parties have worked for Kindergarten—would they work for other grades?
   3. School Event— FRC party for the school and partners? Try to help partners and parents meet each other? Maybe?
4. How to spend PAC funds—Approximately $500
   1. Grade level parties
   2. Movie License-- $200-$300
   3. School Supplies
   4. School Party
5. Group Discussion
   1. Movie License is a good idea—everyone can put it to good use. Maybe next year?
   2. Grade level parties were unanimously voted the best idea
      1. Why
         1. Kids are going to make their parents come
         2. Helps parents meet other parents with kids in the same grade
         3. Easiest to manage
      2. How to address problems
         1. Money—the FRC will pay for supplies out of PAC funds
         2. Time, teachers are busy—The FRC will plan parties with input from teachers to minimize teacher work. As this has been dictated by PAC, it falls under FRC duties
      3. 4th grade has a picnic at the end of the year. There have been struggles in holding it due to lack of finances and man power. The group agreed that the majority of FRC funds should go to making this a successful transition event, celebrating and encouraging the 4th graders as they move to middle school
         1. Follow up- the FRC director will meet with 4th grade team to offer any help needed
         2. Maybe some representatives from McMurray can come? Jim Williamson, the NAZA director has already expressed interest in helping with this transition.
      4. There is a school field day coming soon
         1. Can we get parents involved? Parents are an underutilized resource to help teachers.
         2. Some FRC funds can go to help with extra supplies
         3. Follow up—FRC Director will connect with PE teachers to ask if we can help.
      5. The rest of the funds can go to help host a 3rd grade party.
         1. FRC Director will connect with third grade
      6. Any left overs can be used to buy supplies for teachers
   3. Ideas to improve parent involvement at these events
      1. Be prepared ahead of time—send home fliers requesting help and being VERY specific on ways parents can help.
      2. Have parents wear name tags with name of child’s teacher to help parents identify something in common.
      3. Have a game—child whose parents meet the most other parents wins in class the next day. Although these games can be irritating and boring—they WORK!
   4. To reiterate—The PAC has identified increased parent engagement as a primary goal, and helping with grade level parties and field day are for this purpose.
6. Nolensville Road Task Force
   1. Update: at the last partner meeting, it was agreed that a Nolensville Road Task Force is needed—a group of local leaders committed to proactive growth
7. Group Discussion
   1. Mr. White expressed how volunteering has helped him connect with the community… this should be encouraged over time.
8. Next Meeting? Do we need/want another?
   1. Another meeting is not needed at this time, but we can have one if a problem arises. We will meet again in the new school year.
9. Adjournment