# Parent Advisory Council

January 16, 2013. 6:30 PM

Tusculum Elementary School

Family Resource Center (FRC)

## Minutes

1. Re-introductions: We had 3 parents, 1 teacher, Mrs. Hulse, and me.
2. Mrs. Hulse: Needs help reviewing the Parent Contacts. All parents present agreed to do so. Other parents needed. Please let Mrs. Hulse know if you are willing to help.
3. Mrs. Haley needs
   1. Volunteers to help with book fair 2/25-3/1- school day only. Help monitor kids and guide parents.
   2. Volunteers also needed to help with check out M, W, and F every week.
   3. For more info, contact Mrs. Haley at school or via email.
4. Addition to meeting minutes
   1. Hopefully getting a new school building. Stay in touch for more info. Help your school and community by contacting your council member. Ideas given as talking points.
5. Group Discussion
   1. Other concerns: Parent involvement. Why do we want parents to be involved? What keeps them from getting involved? What works best?
      1. These suggestions arose:
         1. Have a performance- Parents Yecome to see their kids.
         2. Have refreshments after—Kids talk parents into staying for food.
         3. Grade level events seem to work well and would have most impact.
         4. Would work best with lower level grades where parents are already more involved.
         5. Barriers with higher level grades—perhaps if Sarah volunteers to organize it will help.
         6. Potlucks have worked well in the FRC and keep costs and work lower for teachers.
         7. Movie nights? Is it worth it to buy a license to show movies? Research will be done by Sarah and reported at next meeting.
   2. Evening/weekend workshops? “Navigating Nashville”?- not discussed
6. Review Last Meeting
   1. Barriers to parent engagement—busy lives, no shared languages, lack of comfort with strangers, etc.
   2. Proposals
      1. Making translators more recognizable—Not discussed
      2. Coffee and Culture scheduled January 17th Burmese
         1. Problem: parents don’t know. Teachers don’t know to send out fliers and don’t have time
         2. Answer: Ask Dr. McMahan to make morning announcement about events to inform teachers and students.
         3. Also, interns and translators are helping by making phone calls--- makes invite more personal.
         4. Long term—word will start to spread?
         5. Update: event was WONDERFUL!!! Check Facebook for pictures soon!
      3. Next one February 14th- Nepali
         1. Watch for it! Spread the word!!
7. Next Meeting – Tuesday March 5th, 6pm. Please RSVP as soon as possible. Date can be changed if necessary.
8. Adjournment