

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT SHARED DECISION COMMITTEE
HUNTINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

December 9, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the District Shared Decision Committee of the Huntington Union Free School District was held on December 9, 2014 at the Jack Abrams School Library, 50 Tower Street, Huntington Station, NY.

ATTENDEES

District Shared Committee Members:

Christine Biernacki, Lauren Biscardi, Dr. Kenneth Card, Carol Coffey, Liz Cordeiro, Suzanne Dinehart, Jim Lauter, Keith Meyers, Rae Montesano, Soraya Triessl, Nancy Wilson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION was made by Carol Coffey and seconded by Liz Cordeiro to approve the Minutes of the District Shared Decision Committee meeting of October 7, 2014.

REPORT FROM SCHOOLS

Huntington High School

- Dr. Card discussed notes he received from HHS representatives.
- The focus is on parents helping parents. This initiative is being coordinated by Dr. Leonardi as the Parent Engagement Coordinator and Mrs. Triessl, the Parent Academy Coordinator.
- There have been and will continue to be Parent Academies conducted at Huntington High School which are planned by a committee.

Finley Middle School

- The goal has been to enhance and expand parent engagement especially among the Spanish speaking families. This is being achieved by common core night with math and ELA training for parents. There are social studies and science trainings being planned for the spring.
- Spanish progress reports are in the planning stage.
- Pizza with the Principals nights at Tri CYA - There were more students than parents in attendance, but the nights were viewed as successful.
- Teacher Duty has been assigned to translate phone calls and call home for teachers who do not speak Spanish. This has allowed much better communication with the families who have limited English proficiency.
- Monthly newsletter lets everyone know what is happening in classes and building.

Woodhull Intermediate School

- The main goal remains improving parental engagement.
- PTA meetings have had low attendance.
- Parent workshops had lower attendance than anticipated. Feedback indicated that it was a busy time and the workshops were early. The workshops were highly regarded by those that did attend.
- Tutoring Programs - There are teacher volunteers at the Tri-CYA. A discussion ensued regarding the expansion of such a program and having Huntington High School student tutors come over to Woodhull after school.

Jack Abrams STEM Magnet School

- STEM Family Night, November 10, 2014 – Two hundred students and parents in attendance. The next event is April 17, 2015.
- Parent Workshops had small attendance -- Timing may have been an issue. The next workshop is March 3, 2015.
- Technology week – partnerships with businesses
Theme: a book will be chosen and activities will be planned around theme and book.
- Added new patriot song every month after the Pledge of Allegiance is said during the announcements.
- Word of the week

Flower Hill Primary School

- Math Night – Seventy students, Grade k-4 and 16 teachers participated.
- American Education Week – Parents came in to observe lessons.
- PARP – Parents will receive copies of books to read with kids.

Jefferson Primary School

- Principal has instituted a “Tip of the Month” for families that goes home in two languages.
- Red Yellow Green Light initiated by the PBIS committee. “Tip of the Day” goes to students and is given in the announcements by the students. Students take in the tip more effectively if they hear it in the voice of a peer.
- Parent workshop is planned for the spring.

Southdown Primary School

- Focus is on enhancing communication.
- Common Core Parent Workshops focused on ELA – low turnout. Hoping turnout will be better for future events by organizing “Buddy Parents” to drive one another, and putting up flyers in public library, bodega and other local businesses.
- Huntington Elks provided all third graders with a dictionary.
- PTA has been using more translators.
- NY Islanders assembly
- Random acts of kindness for December - Acts of kindness are posted on tree outside of cafeteria. Principal choice book with kindness theme given to all classrooms by PTA.
- Read in day will involve community member volunteers in January.

Washington Primary School

- Goal is to assure that parents understand skills and vocabulary associated with Common Core.
- American Education Week – Parents observed lessons happening in the classrooms. It was held in conjunction with the book fair - pretty good turnout.
- Math curriculum night is March 24, 2015 and will be held with Science Fair winner announcement to encourage attendance.

SEPTA

- The last meeting included the community groups that offer activities for students with special needs outside of school.

NANCY ALLARD – TITLE I

No Report

REPORT FROM DR. CARD

- An additional math coach and demonstration teachers have been hired in the district.
- SVLP – 9th, 10th and 11th grade students were invited. Now it is not only summer but has been expanded to Saturdays. Two hour sessions in English and Math
- Saturday Institute – started earlier this year
- Roll out of devices –
 - Chrome books - 3rd and 5th grade and 6th grade at STEM
 - Surfaces – 4th grade at STEM
 - 7th grade will be rolled out this year
- SMART Bond Planning
- Parent access to curriculum maps is available on website through the drop down menu.
- On line Math Program for selected students in 3rd through 6th grades
- Note was taken that all schools were represented at this meeting.

FUTURE MEETINGS: March 10, 2015, May 26, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Rae Montesano and seconded by Jim Lauter to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 pm.