

Minutes

Homestead Parent Club Meeting

September 10, 2015

Start time 11:00

Present: *Kathy O'Shaughnessy, President; Heather Wilcox, Vice President; Judy Fehlhaber, Treasurer; Amy McGivin, Clare Geoffray, Liz Auger, Meagan Milne, Beth Zweig, Saghi Togashi, Joelle White, Jennifer Balkenbusch, Cindy Volk, Deb Narman, Jill Smith, Anita DiGregory.*

Welcome by Kathy O'Shaughnessy, president. This is her last year. Heather Wilcox will take her place Homestead Principal, Park Grinder, couldn't be here today. Weighted grades vote by school board discussion will happen later. Today we have a new connect device called Canvas.

Guest Speaker, Susan Summers, Assistant Principal -- Canvas

- It is a learning management system. My Big Campus went bankrupt.
- Canvas is the second most popular product in use after Blackboard which is used by Purdue and IPFW. Canvas is used at IU. Over 1/3 of colleges are using Canvas.
- The interface is not as pretty as My Big Campus. It is designed for college students.
- When parents log in you are an observer to your child's classes
 - Teacher, course name, and contact info on home page
 - Most functioning is done from the calendar page
 - NBC Learn Library is a video source for teachers
 - Discovery Ed has short clips and full length videos
 - Under assignments the teacher can indicate how the assignment will be submitted.
 - They can create group assignments that students can do from home and connect to other students electronically.
 - Due date is listed.
- Student view
 - To do list on the right and coming up assignments
 - It will indicate that the assignment has been submitted. Big green check mark. It will also show the grade .
 - Student can also see a rubric for the assignment if the teacher added it to the assignment.
 - Teacher can grade the assignment and leave comments for the student.
- Quizzes can be done online. They can give me practice quizzes where they can see the answers. There can be audio questions etc. teachers can use it to make sure students learned all the formative ideas. It shows the teacher the time frame the student needed to take the test.
- Only assignments done in Canvas show up as grades in Canvas. A complete listing of all grades is in PowerSchool.
- Calendar. Must put in assignments for Monday to Friday every Sunday. May not be possible for all teaches due to subject area. But the teacher must have it in the night before.

Minutes

Homestead Parent Club Meeting

September 10, 2015

- Grades show all assignments completed in Canvas.
- Some teachers use a program called Turn It In. It has some additional features including checking for plagiarism.
- **Training**
 - Teachers will receive training on this during the flex day next Tuesday.
- **Notifications**
 - Parents can receive notifications. Parents calendar lists all assignments for all kids. You can go into each calendar and color code each students classes.
 - You can click on the colored boxes to get rid of classes you don't think you need to see.
- If your student has trouble submitting an assignment. Email the teacher and take a screen shot of the error message. It is forwarded to the tech department and it helps them solve the problem.

Business Meeting, Kathy O'Shaughnessy, President

- New Family Orientation. 150-200 people. Very well attended. Student government conducted tours. This year's event was a combination of three old programs. Did evaluations after the event. We will make some adjustments.
- Parent Club emails. The district has allowed parent clubs to send emails through the district. Tried on Friday many emails bounced back. We will send out two emails per month. All committee chairs need to get information to Kathy to be included. The Sign Up Genius links will be included in each email.
- New website
- PayPal option. Can donate to parent club in general or to teacher appreciation and to teacher grants.
- Sylvia Redden, in the front office, asks that everyone who signs in for Parent Club meetings remembers to sign out.
- Positions open next year:
 - President -- Heather Wilcox taking her place
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- Currently looking for an IT person to take over parent club website, twitter
- Heather Wilcox, Presidents' Council Meeting
 - **Referendum in May.** This is the same thing that we vote on every five years. Money goes to the teachers. Big picture -- target regular voters with kids in the district. Need people to knock on doors. 2-3 people per district. October will hold deliberate dialogs. Get people to understand that this is keeping the status quo. You are already paying it. In January the board will adopt a resolution about what will go on the ballot and the wording. You can vote just on the referendum in May. If this is something that interests you, contact heather or the superintendent.
 - **Calendars. 2017-2018.** Two are traditional and two are modified balanced. The modified balanced has two weeks off in March for spring

Minutes

Homestead Parent Club Meeting

September 10, 2015

break and a full week off in March. Give comments to any board member. Voting is November 15. Impacted by dual credit classes and their dates. Other school districts that have implemented the balanced calendars do not receive complaints after implementation. It's important to let them know what you think

- Treasurer's Report. Judy Fehlhaber. Income this year is very close to last year. Budget this year is almost the same as last year.
- By-laws. Kathy O'Shaughnessy. Ours are from 1985. We are working to update the by laws and put them on the website.
- Honor roll recognition is October 4th. We give out certificates and cookies in the cafeteria during lunch periods.
- Copy room chair, Liz Auger. Sign up genius link. Volunteers make copies for the teachers in the copy room.
- SAT/ACT Test for Practice, Saghi Togashi. Oct 10 is first exam date. Sept 25 is the deadline for registration.
- Old news.
 - Senior activity day went very well. Everyone enjoyed it. The kids did it and planned it. Administration approved some items and not others.
 - Senior scholarship was given out during senior activity day. They submitted an essay on a Bucket List item. We had 32 entries. We awarded 4 scholarships of \$500 each. One was to complete a film. One was for NYC with deca. Waterpark with their family. And last was to take a senior trip. They are supposed to give us an update on their adventure.
 - Officer Herriot is no longer here. She took a new job. New school resource officer. No longer have a dog. He will talk with us in the future.
- Mission Statement -- we will discuss and get it on the website.
- Kathy is on a mental health committee for students. CHIP. Working with Deb McMahan. Her goal is for every doctor to include a mental health component in every wellness check. Kathy is very passionate about a transition into college piece worked into Senior Advisory. Anxiety. Stress. Depression. Cutters. Suicide attempts. Etc. Kathy will be bringing in a speaker to talk with us about this topic.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm