

Alcott Parent Teacher Group Meeting Minutes November 4, 2015

Present:

Tracey Marano	Heidi Webster	Jennifer Kamionek	Cheryl Dreyer	Liz Crowell
Amy McManus	Nora Gilligan Havens	Carrie Lamont	Karen Graziani	David Johnson
Carrie Finizio	Caroline Della Penna	Denise Jantzen	Lori Robertson	Kristen Tyson

Guests: Diana Rigby,* NITWITS Kathy Little* and

Principal: Sharon Young*

School Staff Liaison: John Peachey*

*indicates attendance

Opening and introduction: Tracey Marano

Old Business

- Monster Mash was successful, thanks to Claire O'Brien and all volunteers
 - Need more help next year
- Alcott Social was successful with 60 attendees
 - Heidi will follow-up on auction items
 - Looking at Masonic Lodge for next year – less expensive

New Business

- Superintendent Diana Rigby's update
 - Concord Middle School: a committee is looking at improving the configuration with the 2 buildings in order to enhance student learning and balance the academics vs. specials and electives. The optimal result would be better academic and learning support benefits for students.
 - Jan: committee will hold a community forum to discuss proposals and answer questions
 - Feb: by the 1st, the committee will have a decision on the configuration
 - Apr: by the 1st, decision will be communicated so that all current 5th graders and the public will know what to expect for following year
 - The focus, as in the past, will continue to be the pursuit of a respectful and empathic school community
 - Moving toward a 20th century schedule with schedule modifications like an "elective wheel" which provides short-term exploration of various subjects
 - Our school district has talented faculties because it offers the best working conditions
 - CMS minutes are available on CMS website
 - For questions/comments, visit "Your Voice Matters" found in opening paragraph of school district's homepage: concordpublicschools.net
- Principal Update
 - Boston trip with Metco families had a good turnout with teachers and families who enjoyed pizza and discussed topics like information access.
- Superintendent's Meeting Report highlights (provided by Jen K.)
 - Presentation is available on district website
 - Technology is a small piece of overall budget

- Every day math pilot happening for all 5th grade, kindergarten, and some 1st grade classes at Alcott
- Treasurer's report: 30% of annual appeal reached
- Thursday Owl
 - Have had lots of positive feedback
 - Eventually the info will be archived on the PTG website
- PTG Website
 - Design will be responsive for all devices/platforms
 - Website will have a soft launch to PTG first
- Lice Presentation by NITWITS: speakers provided helpful information regarding prevention, facts, and treatment. Visit www.LiceInfo.net

Next Meeting: December 2nd, 9:30 a.m. in Conference Room