

## Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Annual Organization Meeting

Minutes completed by: Lynda Gibson

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Time: 8:45AM-10:00AM

Total Present: 27

Yamah Alshailkh

Megan Trinter

Nawal Zangan

Ayesha Bibit

Maryam Nouman

Amina Sadik

Judy Edstrom

Emily Berman

Maria Ciccone

Artoro Cortes

Pamela Thuswaldner

Lloy Johnston

Sonya Benham

Mandy Baracqua

Vicki Inglezou

Erica Clark

Chiry Mehla

Nameer Alali

Rachida Dini

Kristin Hunter

Erin Olenicak

Rose Buzo

Blanca Soto

Barbara Norlund

Catherine Korda (President)

Lynda Gibson (Recording secretary)

Jessica Espinosa (Secretary)

Peterson administrators present: Principal Kate Kane and Assistant Principal Scott Topel

Refreshments were provided.

**There were 2 key agenda items for this meeting:**

1. Presentation to parents regarding bullying and hate crimes provided by the Chicago Commission on Human Relations
2. Review of Peterson's response to bullying and procedures

***details for all agenda items are provided below***

- The call to order and welcome was completed by Catherine Korda.
- Norman White, human relations specialist at the Chicago Commission on Human Relations gave a presentation on bullying, cyber bullying, and hate crimes. The Chicago Commission on Human Relations focuses on fighting discrimination and advocating for human rights. Mr. White had an interactive discussion with parents and school administration and discussed a range of topics such as how to define and identify hate crimes, how to respond to bullying, and how parents can talk to their children about these issues.
- Principal Kate Kane discussed the policies at Peterson related to bullying and the protocol when incidences of bullying occur. Assistant Principal Scott Topel discussed the importance of parents talking to their children about bullying, and Amy Washington (in charge of Behavior and Student Support) discussed how Peterson works to ensure the safety and emotional well-being of all students in these situations. A handout with Peterson's Anti-Bullying Policies and Investigation Steps was distributed to all parents.
- Books on the topic of bullying were made available for parents to borrow from the PAC Lending Library and handouts were provided by PAC with a list of resources/books that can help with talking to children and adolescents about bullying.
- PAC President Catherine Korda and PTA Co-President Megan Trinter discussed Peterson's next school wide event, Unity Through the Arts. There is also a fundraiser today at MOD Pizza and 20% of each sale will be donated to Friends of Peterson.
- Upcoming Peterson/School-Wide Events:  
 LSC Meeting, Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at 6PM  
 PTA Meeting, Feb 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:45AM  
 Unity Through the Arts, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM

*ESEA Title I Part A Funds were used to support this activity*