

DISTRICTWIDE PARENT' ORGANIZATION
IOWA CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
http://www.edline.net/pages/ICCSD/parents/District_Parents_Organization

Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2017 at Liberty High School

Attendees Included: Francine Rath, Martha Terry, Carol Joriman, Janis Deyak, Tara Sterba, Jen Kruse, Laura Broffitt, Vanessa McDonald, Miriam Timmer-Hackett, Shwetal Vyas, Amy Kortemeyer, Tea Ho, Sandy DeSchinckel, Jessie Viering, Chris Lynch, Cathy Pugh, Lori Hagedorn, Liz Firmstone, Theresa Weeks, Jen Johnson, Desiree Espinoza, Denise Zumbach, Ellen Daye Owens, Brenda Linley, Brooke Enger, Angela Pitkin, Kelly Terrill, Angie Rogers, Jenna Haug, Aaron Bodling, Julie Eisele, Marisa Keeney, Lori Doerschug, Cynthia Crosett Powell, Paul Roesler, Matt Degner, Steve Murley, Susan Brennan, Janet Godwin, Shawn Eyestone, Steve Murley, Brad Kelly, Jenni Mettemeyer, Mary Murphy, Ben Brozene, Mary-Kate Pilcher-Hayek, Marla Swesey

Representing: Borlaug, Garner, Wickham, NCJH, West Wind Ed. Policy, Lucas, Grant Wood, Hoover, West, Wickham, Longfellow, CHS, NCJH, Penn, Coralville Central, NWJH, Hills, Horn, Van Allen, ESC, Lincoln, Liberty, Garner, ICCSD Board of Directors, Lemme, Shimek, ICCSD Foundation

- I. Gathering Time: Attendees gathered starting at 11:30 a.m. at Liberty High School.

- II. Call to Order:
 - A. Liberty High School Principal Scott Kibby welcomed attendees to Liberty High School.
 - B. Brad Kelly, DPO Co-President, welcomed everyone and had the DPO executive board introduce itself.

- III. Announcements:
 - A. Eric Johnson of Mark Twain announced that 6th graders are switching classes at Twain this year to help the kids move and get ready for junior high.

- B. Mary Kate Pilcher Hayek of Hoover informed attendees that there is a boys'/girls' running club available and if anyone is interested in having a club at their school, they are easy to set up.
- C. Matt Degner, Assistant Superintendent, recognized Scott Kibby, Principal Liberty High for being humble and going above and beyond duty to make sure Liberty High is getting off to a good start.
- D. Miriam Timmer-Hackert congratulated Shawn Eyestone on his election to the school board and Paul Roesler recognized Janet Godwin on her election also.

IV. DPO Officer Reports

- A. DPO Co-President Tara Sterba explained the purpose of the DPO; that meetings were monthly; that each meeting would have a topic of interest to parents; that the upcoming meeting in October would address the role of the school board and its members; and that the November meeting, which will be an evening meeting, will focus on special education. Ms. Sterba also said that the DPO is a forum to share information about school issues. She explained there are notecards on each table and that attendees can use these to ask Mr. Murley questions. The DPO will then submit to Mr. Murley and return his answers to the group.
- B. DPO Co-President Brad Kelly stated that Lisa Glenn, ICCSD's new Director of Special Education, would be the primary speaker in November and that the DPO hopes to offer child care. The November meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18t, at Northwest Junior High at 6 p.m. Questions for Ms. Glenn can be submitted to the DPO prior to the meeting.
- C. Ms. Sterba mentioned that individual school dues were \$40.
- D. Co-President Elect Miriam Timmer-Hackert would like PSTOs/PTAs to collect a headcount from their schools of those individuals who might attend the November DPO evening meeting and of children to determine food and babysitting needs.
- E. Past President Mary Kate Pilcher Hayek stated the DPO meetings are to be collaborative.
- F. Co-Secretary Jenni Mettemeyer asked that all DPO representatives complete the representative contact information sheet and return it to the secretaries.

V. Iowa City Community School District Report

- A. Foundation Representative Susan Brennan congratulated Janet Godwin and Sean Eyestone on their election to the board. Susan also informed attendees of the following:
1. Dine Out on 9/14/17 with 39 restaurants.
 2. Run for the Schools on 10/15/17. Foundation sent out link to schools. Some schools will have torch runs.
 3. IC Road Races has \$50 grant available for boys and girls running clubs or Girls on the Run.
 4. School of the Wild is taking place. Invoices for School of the Wild now go to the Foundation, not the schools. Voluntary PTO donations should be sent to the Foundation.
 5. The visiting author has been selected for 3rd and 4th graders.
 6. There will be a symphony scheduled for 4th graders at Voxman.
 7. Live Arts is scheduled for 8th graders in the spring at Hancher.
 8. In partnership with the Foundation, kindergartners will go to the Children's Museum.
- B. School Board Representative Chris Lynch thanked attendees for participating in democracy. He is excited about the new board. He is happy candidates got asked about the strategic plan and education as the current board set the foundation in place for the strategic plan. He reported District ACT scores average above 25, the top $\frac{2}{3}$ of ICCSD students are in the top quarter of the nation, there are many kids in career and technical education, there are amazing results in proficiency, the facilities master plan is on schedule and under budget, there have been four ribbon cuttings, which is amazing, and he he wants to keep the plan on schedule.
- C. School Board Representative Paul Roesler thanked Chris Lynch for serving on the board and says with record high temperatures expected the district may have to let school out early (Thursday) and that this would be the last school year that would happen for elementary schools with the bond passage.
- D. Administration Representative Superintendent Steve Murley had other administrators introduce themselves--Matt Degner, Assistant Superintendent who works with secondary schools, Amy Kortemeyer, Assistant Superintendent who works with elementary schools, Lisa Glenn, the Director of Special Education, and Kristen Peterson who works on communications for the district.

VI. The Presentation speaker was Superintendent Steve Murley whose "State of the District" highlighted the following:

- A. Multi-Tiered System of Supports - working to tie district together.
- B. Early Literacy implementation.
- C. Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) is being expanded.
- D. Kirkwood Regional Center can offer students college credit while enrolled in high school. The later start time for secondary students allows 3 different strands of academy with less class time at their home school missed. A bus runs three cycles to all three schools. There is not enough interest to hold these programs at each high school.
- E. Weighted Resource Allocation Model (WRAM) - administration does a needs analysis of the school and assigns resources based on needs. Administration is getting positive feedback on WRAM from students and staff. Administration also using WRAM to get technology out into schools. Administration is working with Sprint so some students can now sign up for a free hot spot to get free internet at home for a year.
- F. District has worked with the Grant Wood AEA to get new science kits for K through 6th grade and implementing a new math program at the secondary level.
- G. All certified staff have gone through ELL Proficiency Standards Training, using modules 1 & 2.
- H. Administrative staff has also gone through cultural competency training.
- I. Community Affairs put together three calendars--this year, next year, and the year following. These can be found on the district website.
- J. The Any Given Child program has partnered with the Kennedy Center in Washington DC to bring the arts into the schools. (Susan Brennan of the Foundation further explained that KinderTales was funded by the Foundation and that Any Given Child looks for gaps and then coordinates opportunities and organizes bussing while the Foundation pays to support the programming.)
- K. The Nutrition Services staff working with the local Farm to School chapter to source food locally and expanded the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant to additional schools.
- L. The district is developing a 1:1 Chromebook plan at the secondary level where the students are “learning a new way to learn” and there is “some vertical learning going on.”
- M. ICCSD hosted a Google Summit and is now “using technology to leverage learning in the classroom.”

- N. CANVAS is a learner management system that allows teachers to deliver a course to students. Parents can sign up for the CANVAS app to see syllabi, etc.
- O. Following the bond vote, there are 750 new students at Liberty, Longfellow students are at Hoover, there has been a ribbon cutting at Lucas. Longfellow will be renovated. The district is putting double hung windows in Longfellow and will match the brick to maintain Longfellow's historic significance. The board passed a renovation plan/design for Mann. The Mann kids will go to Hoover and then back to Mann. The architects believe the Lincoln ravine can be used. Lincoln is a "problematic campus" and the district will look at it further. The Liberty commons was built for 1500 kids as were the science rooms. Liberty classrooms were built for 1,000 kids. The district needs to add space for 500 kids.
- P. The district wants high schools to be alike. City and West are eight students apart this year. They are getting to parity where all [high schools] will be the same size.
- Q. The district owns property for an elementary school by South Slope it plans to build on because it has utilities and roads and projects it will open in the fall of 2019.
- R. The district also owns land for Grant Elementary; however, there is no infrastructure yet.
- S. Following a statement from new board member Sean Eyestone that "someone is going to have to set boundaries for new schools," Mr. Murley said the new elementary by South Slope will only impact three catchment areas so a smaller group will work to set boundaries.

VII. Mark Twain parent, Eric Johnson asked Superintendent Murley to speak about activity bussing for students from the Kirkwood area attending Liberty High and the Alexander area attending West High. Superintendent Murley responded as follows:

- A. The district is working directly with students.
- B. The district is using cabs.
- C. The number of students is low.
- D. In response to a parent's question about how students are informed about activity transportation, Superintendent Murley used baseball as an example and said information was provided during tryouts. Assistant Superintendent Matt Degner stated the district is working through student and family advocates.

VIII. Cynthia Crossett-Powell, DPO Treasurer, asked DPO school representatives to speak with her.

The meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

By Jenni Mettemeyer and Mary Murphy, DPO Co-Secretaries

Co-Presidents: Tara Sterba*Brad Kelly

Co-Presidents Elect: Miriam Timmer-Hackert*Eric Johnson

Past Co-Presidents: Mary Kate Pilcher-Hayek*Tea Ho

Co-Secretaries: Jenni Mettemeyer*Mary Murphy

Treasurer: Cynthia Crossett-Powell

Next Meeting:

Approve Minutes from 9-13-2017 meeting