

## District Wide Parents' Council (DWPC) June 2007 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Pam Tack at 9:55.

**Old Business** – Motion to accept the minutes from the May meeting with one change. Under Maureen Bower's School board discussion we need to add was recommended to the end of the sentence regarding the book **The Homework Myth**. The minutes were accepted with the changes by Madeline Hoetger and seconded by Caroline Ramalay.

Some information that Cheryl received was shared. Heather Ohlson from Reality Check sent a flyer group titled **Tobacco Industry Continues to Target Children chocolate, vanilla, mint, spice; fruit and candy flavored products should be taken off the menu**. All reps were given a copy of the flyer and asked to share the info.

Also shared was a flyer sent by Maureen regarding i-Parent Program – it is an internet safety program being presented by Gary Tomczyk Jr. Many of the schools have already distributed a similar flyer regarding the program which will be taking place on the next two Wed. June 13 at Bailey, and June 20<sup>th</sup> at Miller.

The Treasurers Report was given by Vera Rubeo. The balance as of today was \$163.18 – Vera had to write out a check to cover Meet the Candidates Night expenses for \$52.21. Another check will need to be written out as soon as Pam Tack gets the receipt to her. (It should be noted that after this meeting Vera will be stepping down as Secretary and Caroline Ramalay will be taking her place. Many thanks to Vera for all of her help as secretary.

Miscellaneous business - We need to see about setting an official date for Candidates Night in May – we would like to have the district set up the date for Tuesday, May 13, 2008. I will let Anne Killian know about the date and ask Mr. Gretzinger to set the date aside. (\*SEE NOTE AT THE END)

**Board of Education** – Maureen was asked about a recent article that appeared in the Times Herald Record entitled **44 Local Schools Get High Ranking**. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the article and copies were made available for all of the reps. It was noted that the Kingston middle schools and high school were not on the list. Zena and Anna Devine have met the standards but did not appear on the list. Evidently in order to appear on the list schools have to have certain criteria and both of the schools do not have all the criteria but they have met the standards. If you would like to see the report card by the state it can be found at the state education website [www.nysed.gov](http://www.nysed.gov).

Discussion took place regarding changes that are currently taking place within the district, especially at the administrative level.

Three directorships were dissolved Fine arts, Elementary, and Secondary. They are currently restructuring the positions someone will be hired to oversee Math, Science and Technology. An ELA full time coordinator (6-12), and a full time person to oversee the reading program (K-6) will be hired. Several positions will be covered by other staff members and administrators these positions will be filled by interested staff.

A report card committee has been working on changing the report card a new card for grades 3-5 will be going out. The new card will be presented to the principals and once approved it will be adopted. The new card will be going back to letter grades.

A motion came up at the Board meeting last night to raise the price of the lunches – it was voted down because the lunches just went up and it was felt that another increase would be hard for families.

Maureen presented her packet from last evenings meeting. The packet had info on election results, the CDEP – Comprehensive District Education Plan, grants summary for this year, tenure for this year, and some information regarding the No Child Left Behind law. Judy Falcon would like to get on the agenda in the fall to discuss assemblies for the children. She would like to address some other issues.

Maureen has talked to the administrators about having us come up with a list of topics that parents would be interested in. Discussion took place regarding this topic.

**Roundtable –**

**High School** (Lynn Dennison) end of the year events are taking place last day of classes will be next Tues. Pam was asked about the PTA. Changes will be occurring with the PTA they will be changing and become a Parent Information Organization they are also trying to find out what topics of interest parents are interested in. They are also going to start to do more using email.

**Edson** (Jolyn Safron) a garden has been planted at the school - each grade has a bed and they'll be able to watch it grow through the years. Dare graduation took place.

**GW** (Caroline Ramalay) – they had the Shop til You Drop event – PTA has resurrected it is going to be a PTO.

**Sophie Finn** (Madeline Hoetger) – end of the year events are taking place - they are trying to get the PTO together. They are working on getting next year going.

**Anna Devine** – (Maryellen Whittington-Couse) they had the cookbook published – they are working on getting next year's group together.

**Chambers** (Cathy Murphy) new officers will be taking over and like the other schools they are looking forward to the New Year.

**New Business** – new reps for next year - please let me know via email if you will be returning or if you know who the new member will be.

Madeline wanted to know if we wanted to resurrect Up Close and Personal for next year. Some discussion took place regarding this topic and whether we want to do an Up Close and Personal or try and bring in a speaker who would go to several schools and do presentations. Pam and Madeline will be speaking to Mr. Gretzinger about this topic.

Next meeting will be September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to adjourn at 11:40 was made by Madeline and Pam seconded it.

Minutes submitted by Cheryl Oliver. Minutes are not official until approved at the next meeting.

\*NOTES – I did contact Anne Killian regarding Meet the Candidates and she did get back to me that May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 has been set aside for next year.

Please let me know if you will be continuing as the Rep for your school next year.

Everyone have a Wonderful Summer and see you in September!!