

DWPC November 2005 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Pam Tack at 9:45.

New Business – Kimberly Kross school nurse/teacher at Anna Devine Elementary did a presentation on Parental Influences on Childhood Weight. Kim did her thesis on the topic of childhood obesity. One in every five child is obese in NY state and one in every 3 in other states. Kim showed and discussed her power point presentation. She is available to talk to any of the schools that are interested. She can be reached at kkross@kingstoncityschools.org. In depth discussion was done on the causes of this problem and how the district is working on coming up with solutions. If anyone is interested in getting Kim to come to present to their schools, please contact her.

Administrative Announcements - Gerry Gretzinger – Up Close and Personal – he felt that the evening went well and he was glad that the tours were given. Some of the administrators did not have people come to talk to them. We may need to reexamine the format for next year. Signs and directions would have been helpful since people did not know where to go. Signs and directions or using people as greeters should be considered for next year. We were talking about the format - more structure maybe for next year. We discussed how can we get more people involved and how can we get more parent involvement. We need to look at different ways to get the word out.

Gerry Gretzinger filled us in on things that were going on in the district. He and the Mayor and Chief of Police are working very closely on the events that have been occurring at the high school. Everything is running well considering the rumor mill and media.

Pam brought up the program Carlie's Crusade which is a self preservation class for children. It is a program that teaches children how to get out of a situation that is threatening. They teach children how to protect themselves. Dominic Magistro is an instructor that does the program he can be reached at 845-309-2961 www.CarliesCrusade.org or dom71652@aol.com. We are going to work on getting more info on this program and hopefully have it presented at the Roundtable on Nov. 17. Mr. Gretzinger is going to bring the topic up with the administrators and see what input they have.

Old Business – Kristine Casciaro and Blair Goodman made a motion to accept the minutes from the Oct. meeting. Minutes were accepted as presented.

Board of Education – Maureen Bowers passed out her packet of information that involved the 2005-06 accountability report. The Assistant Superintendent of Business/Business Manager position is being interviewed for now and they hope to have the position filled by the end of the month. Maureen was in Rochester for the School Board Convention she felt that she got a lot of information from the convention that she and the other members can share with the district.

Roundtable will be taking place on Thurs. Nov 17. 7:30-9:00 at Meyer. We discussed topics that can be covered – assemblies, fund raisers, Carlie's Crusade, communication (including ways to curtail the abundance of mail and flyers) and technology- these are a few of the topics they hope to cover at the Roundtable. Debbie Ferraro from Meyer is working on getting things organized and she will be getting a flyer out to all of the PTA/PTO presidents this next week.

We are still in need of a representative for George Washington School. We have email contacts for Anna Devine and JF Kennedy. Crosby's rep is not available every meeting but will also be an email contact.

Nancy Schmidt sent in a report from the Safety meeting that occurred in Oct. the issue of visitors in the buildings was brought up again. Nancy's note was read by the secretary and is below.

Nancy's note is as follows -

The safety meeting in October was fairly basic. However, there was a discussion again about visitors in the building. It was recommended that all visitors including parents who are well known or board members etc. obtain a visitors pass at the main office. They are recommending this be passed on to PTOs/PTA to encourage everyone to participate. It will help so that everyone can tell who has permission to be in the building and who may not be. The idea is that even the "regulars" will wear the visitors pass so that subs or anyone else would know they've been to the office. It was also discussed that staff will be encouraged and possibly trained to be more assertive to address people in the building without a pass to guide them to the office.

If anyone has any issues that they would like to have brought up they can contact Nancy or just email me and I can get your issue to her.

At our Dec. meeting Assemblymen Kevin Cahill will be attending to discuss alternative measures for paying for schools other than taxes. Please get the word out and tell folks that if they can come that would be great and come with questions. Again, if you are unable to come but have a question for Assemblymen Cahill just email me and I will get your question to him.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 by Pam Tack and Madeline seconded the motion.
Our next meeting will be on Thurs. Dec. 1 at 9:30.

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