



Sheridan Association of Parents and Teachers

APT Meeting Minutes February 26, 2014

Call to order by Dr. Shinn at 9:37am.

In Attendance: Kristin Chun, Wendy Darling, Bridget Doheny, Meredith Hayes, Alana Hender, Tish Houston, Sarah Lockhart, Tracy Lundergan, Amie Marks, Becky Nagel, Kate Rother, Laura Schlemm, Liz Scully, Dr. Shinn, Danielle Sullivan, Laura Whisler.

Guest Speaker - Rick Schuler

District 67 Board of Education - Vision/Mission/Goals Discussion

Rick went over the role of the board – they are in charge of redefining the core values for the community, creating a vision for the district, and developing a mission that reflects the common values and vision of the community, including parents, administrators, and teachers. The board and the administration work together to create goals, strategies, and tactics for the district. The administration then builds a strategic plan for how to deliver on the vision and mission. The district is receiving hundreds of responses to the weekly vision statement emails. He passed out a document (draft) that states district 67's core values. I will put a copy of this document in the lounge, but please remember this is only a draft. He then opened it up to questions, which were mostly about LASIC (**still about 30-60 days away from a final decision**, some **short-term** decisions already made are: no language will be offered in Kindergarten, all languages will be offered in 1st grade, immersion program will continue through the 4th grade-if they are already in it-with a little different setup for DPM, they want to preserve the neighborhood school)

To view handouts and learn more about the District 67 Vision/Mission/Goals Process please visit <http://www.lakeforestschools.org/district-departments/superintendent/district-missionvision/index.aspx>.

Principal's Report - Dr. Shinn

ISAT testing starts next week in 3rd and 4th grade. Please be sure the kids are here on time. The Art Show starts next Thursday at Gallery 300. All 4th graders have a piece in the show. The display is open all month. March 7 is the Art League presentation at Gorton. Read Across America starts next week. Each day next week we will be doing a different reading activity, culminating in our Family Reading Night on Friday, 3/7. Friday, 3/14 is the 1st grade music show. Conferences start officially tomorrow. 3/20 will be a 3rd-4th grade field trip to Gorton to hear James Stevenson's music that was composed especially for kids.

President's Report - Suzanne Sands (Presented by Liz Scully)

Our APT Theme: BALANCE

News You Can Use

- Communications



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○ *Reflections – Please get back to Carmen and send her your reflections.*

- District News: Highlights from the APT Executive Board Meeting
 - The Smartest Kids in the World & Vision/Mission/Goals
 - APT Nominations Announcement for 2014-16 School Years

Thank you for joining us. Today we are welcoming guest speaker Rick Schuler, one of our District 67 Board of Education members.

BALANCE

Inspirational Quote of the Month

"The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything." - Unknown

This is a quote that was posted by Dr. Elizabeth Lombardo on Facebook. Dr. Lombardo is an Everett parent and will be the closing speaker at our upcoming APT Annual Meeting in March. Her most recent book is *A Happy You: Your Ultimate Prescription for Happiness*. Learn more about her work at <http://elizabethlombardo.com>.

Calendar & Communication

The District 67 APT Annual Meeting to be held on March 12th 9 AM – 11 AM at CROYA. I encourage everyone to attend this meeting. We will start with a breakfast to which administrators will be invited so parents and community members can mingle with them. Mike Simeck will give a State of the District Address and answer questions submitted by parents. If you have any questions you would like him to address please send the to me via email as sandssuzanne@gmail.com. During the meeting the 2014-2016 APT Executive Board Officer elections will be held.

The next Sheridan APT meeting is April 23rd. Our guest speakers will be Lauren Fagel, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Technology, and Assessment K-12 and Lori Wilcox, Executive Director of Growth and Talent Development K-8.

School Calendar Adjustments

Thursday, April 17 will now be a full day of school.

June 5, 6, and 9 will be full days of school.

June 10 will be the last half day of school.

REFLECTIONS

Please remember to get back to Carmen when she reaches out to collect reflections from you about your role on our APT Board. We are attempting to gather this information so as people



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take over these roles going forward they have the information they may need to do the job well.

Highlights from the APT Executive Board Meeting

For more details about any of the following topics please see the APT Executive Board minutes posted on their website.

Mission/Vision/Goals

Mr. Simeck spoke about *The Smartest Kids in the World* book talks. Hopefully some of you have read the book and were able to attend. Even if you missed it the book is a worthwhile read. The district has been running weekly survey questions to gather input from the community as they work on the Mission/Vision/Goals for the future. The second of two Community Forums on this topic is TONIGHT from 7-9 pm in the Administrative Center Board Room at West Campus.

LASIC Update

Mr. Simeck shared the options available for next year along with the pros and cons of each option. He made it clear that regardless of the option chosen some people will be upset. They are in the process of surveying incoming Kindergarten families to inform the demand as they make the decisions about what will be offered to incoming Kindergarten families in 2014. Mr. Simeck is concerned that Sheridan is too small to accommodate an immersion program. For more details read the APT Executive Board minutes.

APT Nominating Committee

2014-16 APT Executive Board Officer Slate

APT Executive Board Vice President: Tiffany Wiesner

APT Executive Board Recording Secretary: Christine Puch

Cherokee Elementary School APT President: Mary Kay Hanlon

Sheridan Elementary School APT President: Kate Rother

Spirit of 67

It can't be stated frequently enough how lucky we are as a District to have the resources available to our teachers and students that the Spirit of 67 Foundation provides through their grants. If you have not given to the Spirit of 67 this year I would strongly encourage you to do so. They are currently seeking sponsors for the Home Tour as well as shout outs for the Home Tour Program. If you are interested in contributing to either effort please contact Eileen Swartout.

Directory/Membership Email Address Collection

Our Directory/Membership Executive APT Board Co-chairs are currently working on creating a database with email addresses for all District 67 families. The intention is to use this information to communicate more directly with parents about APT Membership and updates to their information for the Directory. They are hoping this will be one step towards improving this process.



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4th Grade Parents

If you are interested in serving on the DPM APT Board next year when your child enters 5th Grade please contact the DPM APT President, Christie Theis at christie.theis@comcast.net.

Yearbook

We will be sending out emails confirming yearbook orders and letting people who have not ordered yearbooks know how they can do so. Here's the information FYI. The deadline for orders is March 7th. Yearbooks are \$20 each. If you would like to order a yearbook you may do so by sending in the following information along with a check for \$20 made payable to the Sheridan School Activity Fund. Please include the following information for each book ordered with your check.

Student Name

Teacher

Grade

February Appreciations

- Tish Houston, Danielle Sullivan, and Lindsay Kelly for planning a fantastic Teen Beach Bandstand for our Sheridan Sharks and to all the parent and alumni volunteers who helped make the evening fun and safe for all.
- Kelly Huguenard and Becky Nagel for organizing the upcoming Spring Conference Luncheon for our Sheridan Staff and to all the parent volunteers who are sending in donations for the event.
- Beth Laufeberg, Debbie Jensen, Carmen Doering and all of our classroom volunteers for their work on the yearbook.
- Camile Mayer & Kristen Chun for reaching out to everyone February birthdays for Celebration Book Club. Also, to Janet Burt for sending thank you notes to participating families.
- Emily Savage, Kristin McCain, Mrs. Braca and Mrs. Schlemm for organizing a very successful Bernie's Book Drive at Sheridan.
- Kate Rother for beautifying the front of our school by refreshing our planters as needed.
- Carmen Doering for helping keep all of our parents informed and our website updated.
- Liz Scully for publishing the January minutes "faster than a speeding bullet."
- Rick Schuler for joining us today.

Ms. Kluchka's class presentation

Ms. Kluchka's class combined art and words for their Civil Rights unit. Peter Crowe, Molly Walsh, Kai Popov and Artur Slomba presented their incredible projects! Great job, Ms. Kluchka's class!!



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Treasurer's Report - Amie Marks

Please turn in your receipts. No additional report.

Co-Secretaries - Liz Scully & Tracy Lundergan

No report at this time.

Committee Reports

Food Service - Laurie Whisler

Food Service is getting ready for National Nutrition Month in March. This year we are partnering with the other elementary schools in District 67 and Quest to offer 6 special food tastings during lunch for all students. The theme for this year is "Enjoy the Taste of Eating Right" and "Super Seasoners". The special offerings are going to highlight a particular herb or spice on each day (ie. fruit salad with mint, fresh basil and vegetable pasta salad, dill coleslaw, rosemary shortbread, cinnamon apples, curry potato salad). There will be the herb/spice available in its raw form for the kids to look at and touch. Quest has also graciously scaled down their recipes and they will be distributed to the students to take home. **The lunchroom is going to need extra parent volunteers for each lunch period to help pass out the samples. The special sampling will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays of March. Please visit our Volunteer Spot Lunch Volunteer Sign Up at <http://vols.pt/QsNCzH> to sign up.**

On March 10th a nutritionist from Lake Forest Hospital is going to address the kids in Wellness. She will be discussing better food choices and portion control. We have been lucky to have a nutritionist come to our school for the last 3 years. She has been working her way through different topics each year.

As always, sign-up for lunch duty. A great way to see your kids "in action"!

Conference Luncheon - Kelly Huguenard & Becky Nagel

The luncheon is all set. Thank you to everyone who helped out.

Parent Awareness - Brooke Garrigan & Eileen Swartout JumpStart 5th Grade

Building and Exec. Board PA reps met earlier this month to kickoff the planning of JumpStart 5th grade for 2014. This year's event will be held on May 13.



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What's Next for Me? Changing Times, Changing Bodies

February 22, March 15 or April 26 from 9 a.m. – noon
Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital

Taught by a nurse for Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital, this class will provide accurate and concise information and assist parents in guiding their daughter through puberty and beyond. It will explore the physical, emotional, physiological and social aspects of what's normal and how to adjust to these variances in their lives.

This class is for pre-adolescent girls (9 to 12 years of age) and their mother or adult support person. Registration is required. Register at lfh.org. The fee is \$30 per couple and includes breakfast.

How to Protect Your Children (of all ages) with Technology

March 11, 9:00a.m. – 11:30
Gorton Community Center

Come and learn how to protect your tech-savvy kids online! We will discuss MAC, PC, and mobile devices. We will limit the class size to 16 students to ensure a quality class. Registration is required. Register at gortoncenter.org. The fee is \$50 per person.

Hollywood Exposed

Tina Marie Griffin speaks to teenagers all over the country with a mission to reveal the deadly consequences of the glamorization of drug & alcohol abuse, sex, and self-destructive behaviors portrayed in entertainment. Tina Marie will educate and encourage people to live to their fullest potential by making positive media choices, thereby building higher self-esteem and moral character. ***There will be 3 presentations:***

1. For parents: Sponsored by Parent Awareness at LFHS (Raymond Moore Auditorium) – Tues., March 11th 7:00 – 8:30pm
2. Lake Bluff Middle School – Wed., March 12th during the school day
3. For students at CROYA – Wed., March 12th 7:00 – 8:30pm

Hot Parenting Topics

As your Parent Awareness Representatives, we'd like to help provide the resources you need to do your job as parents. So each month we are asking you for 'Hot Parenting Topics' that you would like help with.

Examples of Hot Parenting Topics could include homework help, balancing it all, media use, etc. *Are there any 'Hot Parenting Topics' that you would like us to bring forward today?*

If you think of other ideas, please contact Eileen Swartout at any time (312-560-1642 or ebswartout@yahoo.com). Thanks!



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Brief Summary of Coming Month - Plans:

LB/LF Drug & Alcohol Panel: What Every Parent Should Know

New date: April 9th at 7 p.m.

DPM Auditorium

Hear local professionals discuss the impact of drugs and alcohol in our community. Ask the important questions that will help you address this challenging topic with your child.

All other events on the Middle School Series have been canceled for 2014

Board of Education - Alana Hender & Heather Kotlarz

One of DPM's 8th grade classes presented on 21st century furniture for the classroom. It seems like this is going to be a hot topic in the next few years.

LASIC committee findings were presented by Mr. Simeck. One of the topics we discussed was the definition of a "neighborhood" School. Some defined it as walking distance and others said that all the kids in my neighborhood go to the same school. Also announced that Mandarin would not be offered to the incoming Kindergarten class next fall.

Food Services presented their findings and are now going to Quest with the recommendations.

A report was also given from the curriculum committee that Bridges would be following the 4th graders to fifth grade next year and the transition will be seamless with agile mind. Also STEM is something the district is starting to take seriously and will be a focus the next few years.

Community Service- Emily Savage & Kristin McCain

Bernie's Book Drive - Sheridan raised the most books of any school in the district – 3,836!

Fine Arts - Kimberly Carris & Wendy Darling

The Spirit of 67 is pleased to welcome Chris Fascione's one man show "Bringing Literature to Life" to Sheridan School, as part of the Fine Arts program coordinated by the APT. Chris acts out children's contemporary and classic literature in a fast-paced, fun-filled performance of comedic acting and storytelling. He will perform on **March 18th at 1.15.**

Bandstand - Tish Houston, Lindsay Kelly, & Danielle Sullivan

Bandstand had a great turn-out, everyone had fun. Thank you to all who helped.

Yearbook - Beth Laufenberg, Debbie Jensen, & Carmen Doering

Deadline for class collage page is February 28th! Please contact Beth Laufenberg (beth60045@me.com or 847-735-8593) with any questions. Yearbooks will be handed out on the last day of school.



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Spirit of 67 - Bridgette Doheny & Michelle Curry

Home Tour May 8, we will need LOTS of volunteers for the Sheridan home. I am the staffing captain for the Sheridan house, so I will hopefully have an email out before the meeting requesting volunteers. Also hoping at the meeting to have a strong recruiting message for volunteers. The home is amazing!! On par with the Sheridan home from last year. Volunteers have an opportunity to spend a few hours in one of those jaw dropping Lake Forest homes.

Home Tour program book shout outs and ads are due on March 1. I will send the electronic version of the form separately and will bring printed copies for the meeting. These are fun ads for families or groups to buy for recognition in the Home Tour program book.

TIME Zone - Bridgette Doheny, & Kristen Chun

Kindertown was held last week. We had 2 session on February 19. As if the kindergarteners aren't cute enough, the full day kindergarten classroom also integrated our preschool friends. A great time for both kids and parent volunteers.

March 11 and March 20 will be the 4th Grade TIME Zone. Ms. Schlemm's class will attend March 11 in the afternoon. Ms. Braca morning of March 20, and Ms. Kluchka afternoon of March 20. Their unit is Illinois. We will be looking for parent volunteers from each 4th grade class.

Teacher Liason - Laura Schlemm

Reminded parents of conferences this week and ISAT testing next week. Also talked about Family Reading Night on Friday, 3/7. Thanked the APT in advance for our luncheon tomorrow.

Please join us for the District 67 APT Annual Meeting to be held on March 12th 9 AM – 11 AM at CROYA. We will start with a breakfast to which administrators will be invited so parents and community members can mingle with them. Mike Simeck will give a State of the District Address and answer questions submitted by parents. Dr. Elizabeth Lombardo, a Clinical Psychologist, bestselling author of "A Happy You" and an Everett Mom, will be making closing remarks. You may have seen her on the Today Show or Fox News, and Shaquille O'Neal calls her "his head coach for happiness." During the meeting the 2014-2016 APT Executive Board Officer elections will be held. All parents and community members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

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