

Cabot PTO – Coffee with Eva Thompson DRAFT
Thursday, June 2, 2016

Location: Cabot Lunch room
Time: 8:30 am
Present: Andrea Steenstrup, Nicky Chapman, Valerie Gopinath, Jené Rossi, Sue Bottino, Deirdre O'Connor, Emily Shumsky, Michelle Acker, Ali Dunn, Andrea Zaff, Jacqueline Badeau, Lindsay Pike, Shirley Huang, Kim Buckton, Joanna Josephson, Victoria Jaffe, Beth Gundy, Melissa Nash, Heidi Lucas

Item I: Introductions

Item II: Questions for Eva

- Q1 - How long will you be in place as the interim principal?
Answer – in place for 1 year
 - working currently with Principals Loreta Lamberti and Diana Beck, Principals at Angier and Zervas, to learn about transition during the school rebuild process

- Q2 – What is the answer to our question put forth to the Superintendent some time back: can we get an assistant principal? How is it that Angier got the appointment of an assistant principal?
Answer – from operations, someone will be assigned to help – this is what David Fleishman has said

- Q3 – What are your thoughts on IEPs? point made from one parent – the school has been very supportive, does not want to see it slip
Answer – will sustain that level of support, i.e. will continue to uphold Newton's high standards

- Q4 – What is the best way to reach you?
Answer – easily accessible, open door policy; an easy way to contact is through email; can also be approached ad hoc, easily approachable

- Q5 – Will you have a comprehensive data dump/ transfer of knowledge from Lou?
Answer – Yes, Absolutely. That process is beginning already; Eva is currently part time at Ward; Both PTO teacher reps spoke in support of the search process; staff at Cabot is very happy with how the search process worked; pleased to be with an interim principal and feel it is the best path at

this time

- Q6 - What is the number of classrooms planned for next year? When will the # of classrooms be released?
Answer – by end of school year

- Parent Comment – Fifth grade last year was tough: Many tough incidents that the classes experienced last year (several sudden staff/ student departures) during which no information was shared with parents; wish for such big losses to be dealt with better; the kids dealt with several big losses and had to guess and wonder what happened
 - follow-on comment from another parent – there is a lot of anxiety on the part of the kids and parents given the chaotic state of things at the school
 - PTO and volunteers are exhausted – from the building process, the changes going on at the school, etc.
 - there is anxiety on the part of the kids around the move to Carr, for example