

December 12, 2018
School Council Minutes

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- I. Introductions
- II. Minutes from November 14, 2018 meeting approved.
- III. Reports
 - A. PTO:
 1. Book Fair raised ~ \$1300
 2. Community retirement party for Audrey Bellinger last week.
 3. PTO cookie swap and mural update on 12/11. Mural is progressing- there will be parent volunteer opportunities in February during school. Also a couple of weekend days for community members to come in. Still fundraising.
 4. Spring Fling planning meeting tonight. Spring Fling is April 6.
 5. Holiday Gift Drive for Second Step is wrapping up
 6. Equity Policy across NPS is being reviewed. Limit per students currently ~\$200/student. We spent about 95% of our equity last year, which was second highest in district. Next year the budget is cut to \$80 per student across district. Need to figure out where cuts are going to come from. There is talk of pooling money and distributing evenly.
 - B. CASP:
 1. Turkey Trot- \$1500 was raised and made 12 Thanksgiving baskets of food for families from Boys and Girls Club.
 2. Grade K-2 performance just finished and 3-5 graders will try out next week for Seusical.
 3. Jan 8 skiing will start at Nashoba- 26 skiers, 1 snowboarder.
 4. Longevity awards were given to Zach (20 years), Alice (11 years) and Dave (5 years); others were recognized for being here for between 8 and 19 years.
 5. ABNA (Autism group in Watertown) came and followed up on previous training with an observation and will give feedback.
 - C. Staff:
 1. First Courageous conversation on half day. Seemed to go well- they watched some powerful videos that were quite thought provoking.

2. At last staff meeting they discussed SEL needs. Teachers sat in groups and shared ideas of how they handle various SE needs

D. Principal:

1. FDK to begin in 2019-2020 school year- impact on CASP. Thinking about how to best support K students in terms of numbers/aides in classrooms.
2. CASP will try and retain FT staff and maybe fill new hours with admin time, but this will mean an increase in tuition- going to send survey to families. Should CASP try and accommodate everyone or should we stay with a wait list?
3. 5th grade will be starting student council that meets on regular basis to discuss ways that kids can get involved in student leadership. Students need to apply by stating why they want to be a student leader but all will be accepted. They will lead 3-4 volunteer opportunities this year.

IV. Mascot/Logo/Colors

- A. Thinking about logo/color/mascot: might be helpful to find out logos from other elementary schools in Newton.
- B. Whatever mascot is chosen, perhaps a costume can be bought for a staff member to wear at assemblies, fairs, etc.
- C. Voting timeline will be adjusted to allow students to vote 12/20

- V. Q & A Doc: Added new potential questions. Next meeting we will go through and try and answer as many questions as we can.