

Patch Elementary School

SAC Meeting Minutes

Jan 10, 2012

15:00-PES Information Center

Members Present

Principal: Nancy Hammack

Ass't Principal: Sheree Foster

Faculty Reps: Karen Antonucci, Adrienne Smith, Robin Tessereau, Jan Kuenning

Parent Reps: Travis Mooring, Joe Cirvello, Beth Cypher, Angel Jones

School Liaison Officer: Joe Holder

Guest presenter: Melanie Hooper

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Travis Mooring.
2. The first item of business was a briefing from Ms. Melanie Hooper regarding the PES Continuous School Improvement initiative. Ms. Hooper explained that the CSI program is principally focused on education program issues/improvements. Based on Terra Nova results and other indicators, the focus is shifting more to writing and math skills. Additionally, she explained that the school is anxious to have parents come and participate in the CSI activities; however parent engagement has been low.
3. Reports
 - a. Principal- Ms. Hammack reported that all teaching positions remain filled; however the "open continuous" recruitments for assistants and subs continue. She also explained that the budget issues previously reported are still pending resolution through DoDDS Europe. Lastly, she offered to take all interested SAC members on a tour of the new classrooms at the conclusion of today's meeting.
 - b. School Liaison Officer- Mr. Holder reported that there is a Bullying Awareness/Prevention review meeting with the Garrison next week. He also stated that the Bullying Prevention Program had launched an anonymous web-based reporting system for the High Schools. Finally, he noted the next IAC meeting will be on 17 Jan at 1530 at Panzer.
 - c. Playground Inclement Weather Guidelines Subcommittee -
 - (1) Minutes from the Subcommittee meeting on 13 Dec were presented to all members and discussed. These Subcommittee minutes shall be electronically posted to the SAC documents page on the PES website and considered a formal part of this meeting record.
 - (2) Wide-ranging discussions took place which are fully documented in the Subcommittee minutes. Two particular items were noted during the SAC summary discussion. First, continued emphasis needs to be placed on students having the proper attire for Winter weather conditions (parental support is needed). Second, a volunteer cleaning crew will be assembled and implemented to provide rapid & timely clearing of snow from the playground to facilitate usage during inclement Winter weather. Sometime afterward, this strategy will be evaluated and the Subcommittee will regroup to determine their final recommendations to the SAC.

4. Old Business

a. AAFES Lunch Menu

- i. This topic came back to the SAC as a result of parents/teacher concerns that prior issues were unresolved and insufficient follow-up was occurring. Many AAFES lunch concerns had been raised in a SAC meeting last Fall, and exactly which issues were still unresolved was unclear. Some of the prior issues were the plastic combo fork/spoon, appropriateness of food for children's age, vegetarian options, and availability/quantity concerns. Because of the continued challenges in this area, a motion was made and seconded to form a special subcommittee to look at these issues in greater depth. A draft charter will be prepared by the SAC secretary and distributed to the SAC members.
- ii. Additional highlights of this lengthy discussion were: (a) are we over-reacting to this issue? If individuals have lunch menu concerns on certain days, a fully viable option is to have their children bring their lunch on those days; (b) do we have too many choices in the lunch menu and is that a contributing factor to the ongoing concerns/complications?
The School Nurse also explained that she'd spoken with the AAFES lunch office in Dallas, Texas regarding concerns that were emailed to her about the lack of vegetarian choices. She later received a detailed reply from the AAFES lunch team by email and forwarded that info to the SAC members on 16 Jan. This reply will serve as input for the Lunch Menu Subcommittee.

5. New Business

- a. SAC election planning for school year 2013/2014 was briefly discussed. It was determined that 2 teacher positions and 2 parent positions will need to be filled for the next school year.

6. Open Forum

- a. Ms. Hammack advised that she is coordinating with the Facilities staff to evaluate additional school security measures such as electronic door locks with remote activation and/or key pad/key card access, along with security cameras.
- b. Mr. Mooring agreed to be the SAC parent rep to the IAC.
- c. Ms. Hooper (CSI guest) raised a strong concern about the shortage of true instructional hours/day available to teachers. It was agreed that this topic would be added as New Business to the next SAC agenda.
- d. The next SAC meeting was scheduled for Feb 7th at 1500.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.