

School Governance Notes 10/6/16 Carrigan Intermediate School

Meeting called to order: 5:59

Members in attendance: Frank Paolino, Rich Weber, Erin Blake, Courtney Dorsi, Casey Lennon, Robin Cannon, Christina Decrescenzo, Twana Shirden, Maura Izzo, Tracy Barletta, Michelle Callahan, Toni Paine, and Jennifer Drost

- Michelle Callahan will chair the next meeting and will write the agenda
- Old Business
 - Last years Festival of the Arts was a huge success. Maura is connecting with the food truck to ensure that we receive the 10% donation from sales.
 - Unity day was very successful last year. We will be holding this again on October 19th. Everyone at Carrigan will wear orange, go into the hallway, hold hands, and recite the unity pledge. We would like to get this on video if possible. Robin suggested trying to get everyone together in the auditorium for a large orange group picture if the floors are not yet being worked on at that time.
- Events coming up at Carrigan:
 - October 19th: Unity Day: “Hands Across Carrigan”
 - October 21^s: Everyone in school will wear pink. Student council will be collecting a dollar donation.
 - October 24th-November 7th canned food drive for WHEAT
 - November 10th Math Night
 - November 23rd: Superhero day
 - November 28th- December 16th Toy for Yale Children’s Hospital Toy Closet
 - December 23rd: PJ Bottom Day: Donation TBD
 - January: Sock, Mitten, and Hat drive for the homeless. Researching a spot to donate. (Idea came from Kid President)
- Suggestions for other events at school:
 - Erin suggested a Science Fair. Students will work in teams to create a science exhibit that they will show at the science fair.
 - Committee has been formed to meet on this separately and come up with other details and a date.
 - Toni suggested that we look to outside people and businesses to sponsor the groups to provide materials for the projects.
 - We will be hosting the Festival of Arts again in the spring.
 - Maura suggested that we do it earlier in the year to get more people involved in the school.
 - Rich thinks that it is a good idea to have it at the end of the year as a cumulative project of everything we learned this year.
 - Open house: We had a great turnout this year.

- Next year we will go back to having Fall Focus in the auditorium combined with the open house.
 - JDRF: Rich is researching to see if we will be doing this again this year.
- SBAC and CMT
 - CMT we went from 68.8% proficient and above to 81% proficient and above.
 - SBAC we went up 5% in ELA and 10% in math.
 - The use of COWS in the classrooms has been a huge help in getting the students familiar with the COWS and is enhancing instruction.
- Attendance:
 - Rich is on the attendance committee
 - They are looking at student and teacher attendance.
 - September attendance has been better than in the past.
 - We have signs for 100% attendance that we hang outside our doors each day.
 - We have cards that students can use to track their attendance.
 - Many teachers are seeing positive feedback from the kids in regards to the sign and cards.
- Writing Program
 - We have implemented a new writing program in 5th grade.
 - Trisha D'Amore from ACES is helping the 5th grade teachers to learn the writer's workshop process.
 - The writing process gets students more involved in their writing.
 - The 5th graders have been working with Trisha D'Amore since they were in early elementary school. They are familiar with a lot of the things that she is covering.
 - This program allows students to express themselves on paper.
 - The 1st writing piece is a persuasive piece.
 - This allows students to learn in different ways, incorporating videos, reading, and writing.
- Our meetings will be the first Thursday of every month.
 - We are currently looking for a couple more parents to be on School Governance for this year.
- Meeting ended at 6:53