

# Central Parent Council Minutes

## Tuesday, May 14, 2024

### 1. Pledge of Allegiance

### 2. Call to Order, Chair Report

— CPC Chair, Tara Belfi

The meeting was called to order at 9:05am

### 3. Approval of Minutes from 4/18/2024 CPC Meeting

— CPC Secretary, Joann Kuncewitch

Erin Rechler moved to approve the April minutes and Dori O'Brien seconded.

### 4. Status and Resolution Report- CPC Vice Chairperson, Lauren Heinz

### 5. Treasury Report — CPC Treasurer, Erin Rechler

### 6. School and Organization Reports:

Goosehill Primary School (GHPTG)

Lloyd Harbor School (LHSPTG)

West Side School (WSSPTG)

CSH Junior/Senior High School (CSHPTG)

CSH Special Education PTO (SEPTO)

Arts Booster Club (ABC)

Cultural Arts Committee (CAC)

Families of the Community United with Schools (FOCUS)

### 7. District Updates — Jill Gierasch, Superintendent

Ms. Gierasch began with the sentiment that this final meeting is very bittersweet for both herself and for Ms. Mona Hect, Assistant Superintendent for Counseling, as they have announced their plans for retirement at the conclusion of this school year. Ms. Gierasch stated that they are incredibly proud of the work they've accomplished collectively with the parents and staff.

Ms. Gierasch announced that tonight's BOE meeting will include a presentation by the West Side School Student Council, an awards ceremony of student recognition, retirees' recognitions, and tenure recipients.

Ms. Gierasch reminded us that the School District Budget Vote & BOE Election is on Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Gierasch spoke about our technology committee. The topic of smart devices was recently discussed at a Goosehill PTG meeting. Ms. Gierasch encouraged community members to reach out to the BOE with ideas regarding technology and cell phone policies. The technology committee will be reaching out to our School Improvement Teams in a collective effort of our community.

Ms. Gierasch commended Dr. Schimpf, Executive Director of Special Education & Pupil Personnel Services, for her dedication in developing the Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) model. The ICT model will be beneficial for all students.

Regarding Universal Pre-K, Ms. Gierasch thanked Ms. LaGattuta for her work on the grant. We have 36 spots for our Pre-K students as well as several students on the waiting list. Our administration is still looking into where UPK classes will be housed as well as other logistics.

Regarding college preparedness, Ms. Hect stated that current Seniors will be going into Juniors classrooms to share stories about their college application journeys and to answer any questions they may have.

Ms. LaGattuta announced that the Regents review course schedules will be available likely by the end of the week.

## **8. Parent Questions/New Business**

Regarding Meet the Candidates Night, parents had questions regarding *why* new mandated procedures for the event were drafted by attorneys without involving the Central Parent Council, the host of the event. Parents also questioned certain items of the procedures, including where it is stated that “Questions are to be asked in an open forum format where community members ask their questions from the microphone.” A parent added that they reached out to The League of Women Voters who stated that an open forum format with live questioning from the audience is not best practice and that the League of Women Voters would not assist in moderating MTC Night with this type of procedure in place.

Ms. Gierasch responded that Christine Costa, Assistant Superintendent for Business, is the liaison in this procedure. Ms. Gierasch added that the plan to record MTC Night prompted the district to contact the attorney, who then drafted the new procedure for the event. This is the same attorney who works with the election process. Ms. Gierasch gave a reminder that events held off school grounds do not need to follow district procedures.

## **9. Important Dates to Remember:**

BOE Budget Hearing Meeting: May 14th at 8 PM  
Budget Vote & BOE Election: May 21st, 6 AM-9PM  
BOE Meeting: June 14th at 8 PM

## **10. Meeting Adjournment** — CPC Chair, Tara Belfi

Mandy Dalal moved to adjourn and Maggie Lovett seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:28am.