



SUPERINTENDENT'S PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

November 13, 2008

Minutes

Present:

Kendrick Rose, E. C. Glass High School; Janeen Smith, Robert S. Payne Elementary School; Cindy Morse, Robert S. Payne Elementary School; Judy LaReau, Heritage High School; Anne Coradazzi, Robert S. Payne Elementary School; Susan Zajac, E. C. Glass High School; Michelle Garland, William Marvin Bass Elementary School; Tracy Childers, Sandusky Elementary School; Brian Farrow, Linkhorne Elementary School; Marcus Calloway, Perrymont Elementary School; Dashia Womack, Linkhorne Elementary School; Justin Weidner, Sheffield Elementary School; George Saunders, Dearington Elementary School for Innovation; Melissa Early, Heritage Elementary School; Noel Davis, Thomas C. Miller Elementary School for Innovation; Felicia Booker, Sandusky Elementary School; Sarah Brasher, Perrymont Elementary School; Paul McKendrick, Superintendent; Wendie Summers, Recording Secretary

The Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council met in the Board Room at the School Administration Building beginning at 7:04 p.m. Dr. McKendrick opened the meeting.

The following topics were discussed during the meeting.

1. Parent online access to progress reports and homework assignments

The school division currently has access to software through Ed Tech Labs through its membership in a consortium composed of school divisions using CIMS products. The software, Parent@School™, provides parents with the ability to access and view their student's information. This information could include absences, schedules, grades, transcripts, immunizations, homework assignment, and lunch account balances. However, there are issues associated with implementing the software. The software would require the employment of additional staff to maintain and manage the system, implementing strict security measures so that the student information can only be accessed by the teachers and the parents, and parent and staff training. Further, teachers would be responsible for ensuring that the information is updated daily. Due to these factors as well as costs associated with the implementation of the system, Dr. McKendrick does not foresee the school division beginning this kind of service in the near future.

Parents asked for an update about the taking away of recess and field trips when a student misbehaves or does not do their homework. Dr. McKendrick stated that he had spoken with principals during the last principals' meeting and asked that they be more lenient when using this practice. He will speak with them again at the next principals' meeting. There were also positive comments made by parents regarding the changes to the attendance policy.

One parent asked if the school administration had considered using metal detectors at the high schools. Dr. McKendrick stated that this had not been considered as it would not be an effective method of monitoring students.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

The next Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council meeting will occur on Thursday, February 19, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the School Administration Building.