

## Central PTO Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: 12/06/2019

LOCATION: Skokie School Community Room

IN ATTENDANCE: Anne Cudney (in place of Maggie Bietler, Deirdre Franklin, Michele Giczewski, Trisha Kokanda, Holly Miller, Christine Morse, Julie Pagliaro, April Potterfield, Emily Rose, Missy Shinall,

Agenda: School Board Listening Session

*Q: What are some things you appreciate about our schools/district this year?*

Responses:

- Appreciate access to teachers
- Teachers and students with a deeper connection
- Communication
- Quality of educators
- The same cohesive message from the principals (suggestion to continue this)
- Transparency and sharing amongst the schools is positive and hopes that there will be more opportunity for best practices and experiences, instead of it being different based on each school
- Good leadership at all five schools
- Commitment to SEL learning, how to use advisory and wish list for SEL related materials in books, games, etc

*Q: What are some concerns you have about our school/district this year?*

Responses:

- Facilities and concerns based on the age of the schools, as an example, the drinking water
- How will all students fit into Washburne when Skokie is decommissioned?
- Lack of consistency of what is offered at elementary schools and dedicated space for things such as a Resource Center and lunch space for students as well as for the staff

Addressing some concerns:

There are set Collaborative Learning Team Meetings CLT - the goal is to work on a curriculum map in small group and then present to the group at large

Work underway to determine what are best practices that can be shared

Concern

There is a perception that certain teams are better.

SEL curriculum is taking too long to implement consistently

How is the Skills period slot is used

There is a perception that people come to D36 for support services. There exists a disproportionately high level of behavior issues

#### Response

- The Kindergarten teachers are having more of a presence in the preschools to help identify behavior and have more successful classrooms
- The 2nd grade co taught classrooms is a good model and staff continue to look at the profile needs of the kids
- Co taught teams allow extra support for a particular unit. Facilitators are topic specific and the resources for teachers to move in and out of the various classrooms
- Positive - teachers feel safe to bring up their concerns of the classroom and they are provided with many levels of support

#### Other concerns

- Washburne food program
- Washburne chorus and orchestra participation has a significant drop
- Response:
- Awareness exists and work currently underway to address this
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- Question if MAP testing is used for a teacher profile and or to place kids? It is NOT used for placement of a student.
- Request for an explanation of New Trier Math sent to 6th grade parents.
- Lack of information and direction at Skokie and concern is the lack of preparation for level 4 classes in both math and science