

Community Relations and Student Life Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors, October 13, 2014

The Community Relations and Student Life (CRSL) Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Monday, October 13, 2014 in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

The meeting was called to order at 5:46 p.m. Present were Committee Chair Heather Palmer; Committee members Leslie Finegold and Christina Frangiosa; Board President Susan Moore; Board Vice President Beth Suchsland; Board members Mel Brodsky and Kathleen Oxberry; Superintendent Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer; Director of Pupil Services and Special Education Karen Berk; Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Activities Director Charles Forster; Community Relations Coordinator/School Board Secretary David M. Sherman; Assistant Public Relations Coordinator Kim Newell and Linda Doll.

There was no public comment on the agenda.

The committee reviewed three student trip requests for PWHS students to travel to New York City. The first request is for Milestone and Town Crier students to attend the Scholastic Press Conference at Columbia University on November 3. The second request is for American Musical Theatre and Chorus students to see Les Miserables on Broadway on December 3. The third request is for 10th grade English students to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Barrymore Theater on December 17. There is no cost to the District for any of the trips.

Committee members were informed that Director of Operations Terry Yemm, Business Administrator Trevor Jackson and Mr. Sherman will make a presentation to the Plymouth-Whitmarsh-Conshohocken Rotary Club on October 16. Members were also reminded of the public meeting on the renovation scheduled for October 22. After considerable discussion it was decided to move the meeting to PWHS because of an event in the Colonial Elementary School Gymnasium.

Ms. Newell explained that she is working with Mr. Yemm to produce short videos on various aspects of the high school renovation. A suggestion was made to include additional individuals in the videos including board members and community members.

There was considerable discussion regarding fundraising ideas that were presented to the Finance Committee on October 6. The administration will take feedback from that meeting and make recommendations to the Board on how to proceed. Once details are finalized, a brochure will be created to communicate options to various constituencies.

Committee members were informed that several avenues are being used to build an alumni database in order to get renovation and other information to as many alumni as possible.

The committee was informed that PW Proud T-shirts and hooded sweatshirts are on sale with proceeds benefitting the renovation. A total of 99 items had been sold at the time of the meeting.

Members discussed themes for the 2015-2016 District Activities Calendar. Consensus was reached to focus on the "Colonial Community" and different ways the District interacts with community groups and businesses.

Committee members were provided with a summary of various social media used by the District. There was some discussion regarding a District-operated Facebook page. Consensus was reached to not host a page for the time being.

It was announced that the Colonial School District Education Foundation Fundraising Committee met in September and the full Foundation Board will convene on November 6. It was also announced that the October 28 Parents Council meeting will focus on the Common Core.

Members were reminded that the meeting with PWHs students to discuss the renovation is scheduled for Monday, December 15 at 2:30 p.m. There was some discussion regarding the location of the meeting. The location will be determined by the level of student interest. It was decided to promote the meeting to the entire student body.

The next CRSL meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

There being no further business or comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Sherman
Community Relations Coordinator
School Board Secretary