

11/2/08

Wilbur Cross High School PTO Meeting Minutes

Lisa introduces PTO officers.

Lisa gives update regarding new vertical response- e-mail communication- large scale distribution

Ms. Fiore: Cross is the host of the Colt Poetry Contest- April 7, 2009- 2:00-6:30

Volunteers are needed to help for the day- food, directions around the building, etc.

There will be 2000 students from other schools participating.

Information about the day will be posted on the school website..

Jim Brochin (faculty advisor to the school newspaper): he thinks parents should come to school to share their experiences: about work, life, etc. They should see what the students are doing in the classroom.

Cheryl Bergman: reporting on the bake sale: \$1219.11 raised. PTO will pay \$125 for the College 101 evening.

Nancy Kafoglis: SPMT report.

Discussion and concerns about the bathrooms in school. Students have brought concerns about cleanliness and lack of supplies.

Faculty advisors needed for all of the classes; need to assign advisors at the Freshman year. Need more communication – more use of the parent link and the website- take advantage of Stephanie Kilburn's skills.

Check out whether it is possible to use the TVs in the foyer as a mode of communicating daily announcements.

Hallways crowded and disorderly- students having problems getting to class- they need an incentive to follow the rules; consequences need to be there for not following the rules and getting to class on time.

Q&A with Ms.Coggins, teachers and administrators:

Question: How to talk to our student's teachers about concerns?

Incomplete progress reports: not all teachers fill out progress reports thoroughly.

Ms. Coggins: If teachers are not responding, let Ms. Coggins know. Send e-mail or call her office- a message will be sent to the teacher. Teachers are required to submit progress reports.

Suggestion: There should be a hyperlink to all teacher's names and e-mail addresses. If there are any suggestions parents need to talk to Stephanie Kilburn.

Question: When are announcements made in school? Parents are not getting announcements from their students. How to deal with this?

Ms. Coggins: Announcements are made between 7:45-8:00 AM. Announcements being posted to website is a good idea.

Ms. Coggins passed out business cards to the parents.

Question: Senior parent's concerns; difficulty getting access to the Guidance Counselors to discuss college.

Ms. Coggins: She wants to know who isn't responding to parents. E-mail her if not getting a satisfactory response by the guidance counselors.

Parent: Has had a good experience with her child's guidance counselor- good feedback, responses.

Question: Could it be possible to have electronic access to grades?

Ms. Coggins: Spoke to grade reporting program= engrade.com – some teachers using it now.

Question: Daughter needs an ID card. Took pictures but did not get the ID card.

Ms. Coggins: Come during lunch time to get ID pictures.

Question: How do you get into lunch?

Ms. Coggins: Entry to lunch requires showing your class schedule.

Question: Do seniors have to take 7 classes?

Ms. Coggins: Seniors do not have to take 7 classes. They can use the extra time as a chance to study. There is SAT help on Saturdays with Ms. Shread; Gear-Up help; Tutor help after school.

Mr. Brochin: Some students have up to 3 study hall periods but do not take advantage of study resources.

Question: How many students are graduating?

Ms. Coggins: About 300 students.

Question: Is it possible to have a meeting to discuss elective classes for next year before the schedules have to be selected?

Ms. Coggins: Will look into it.

Question: A concern was expressed about foul language being used by the track coach to the students.

Ms. Coggins: We need to speak to our children with respect.

Jim Brochin spoke about kids getting to class on time. There are problems with passing between the classes.

Lisa thanked Ms. Coggins and all of the Administrators for coming. She spoke to the need to recruit new PTO officers. A reminder that November 25th is report card pick up night.

Minutes taken by Cheryl Bergman.