



Huntington Union Free School District District-wide Shared Decision Making Regular Meeting Minutes

December 5th, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the District Shared Decision Committee of the Huntington Union Free School District was held on December 5, 2018 at the Jack Abrams School Library, 50 Tower Street, Huntington Station, N.Y.

ATTENDEES:

Nancy Allard, Lara Breingan, Suzette Biagi, Valerie Capitulo-Saide, Carol Coffey, Doreen Ellis, Gabriela Escorbores, Jill Johanson, Katie Kalkau, Michelle Kustera, Elizabeth Lopez, Jessica Mammone, Kristen Memoli, Stacey Parks, Matt Perlongo, Edie Pulizzotto, Melody Renick, Diana Rich

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION was made by Carol Coffey and seconded by Suzette Biagi to approve the Minutes of the District Shared Decision Committee meeting of October 17, 2018.

REPORT FROM SCHOOLS

Huntington High School

- Upcoming brunch – Theme is “Emotional and Physical Wellness”
- Invited Karen Flores, a speaker from the Distracted Driving Program to talk to students
- At school SDM meeting, student attendance and dress code was discussed
- Upcoming winter concerts
- Christmas caroling in the Atria

Finley Middle School

~Represented by Mrs. Parks (parent)

- On December 12th, David Flood, a motivational speaker, will be speaking to students about dignity and compassion
- December 21st is Human Relations Day – there will be different activities in each class on tolerating differences
- Eighth grade field trip to the Holocaust Memorial

Woodhull Intermediate School

- Sanford and Harmony SEL program being implemented
- Art & Education assembly
- Book Fair was a big success
- Parent Workshop
- School production of Mary Poppins will be on January 31st, February 1st, and February 2nd

Jack Abrams STEM Magnet School

- As part of character education, family homework night will involve a video to watch as a family
- Hoping to get a speaker related to character education, also using the book *Wonder* to have discussions

Flower Hill Primary School

- Upcoming Winter Concert and Math Night
- Student will be coming up with their own quotations that will be read over the loudspeaker in the mornings
- Star Student assemblies are monthly and they are having one for each grade
- Faculty split up in teams to be in charge of goals i.e. parent outreach, home school communication
- College Awareness – will be implemented in January
- Community Day – hoping to get a community member as a speaker, like a dentist
- “Play” Committee – extra playtime to interact with other students and adults in the school
- Game Day – parents invited to come in a teach a game to students

Jefferson Primary School

- Parent Workshop success – over 100 people – had a translator, babysitting for families, and many parent volunteers
- In October they had their PTA Family Fun Night – big success
- The costume parade was October 31st
- Had 2nd Parent Math Workshop led by Luz Marotta. Stations: STEM, Movement & Math, Games. Pre-K was included
- November 13th – 16th National Education Week – parents were invited into classrooms to get a glimpse of instruction
- Upcoming Book Fair, Holiday Boutique, and Winter Concert on December 18th

Southdown Primary School

- Math Night was on October 25th – was well attended
- Harvest Festival – held on Halloween following Costume Parade
- Food Drive – food collected before Thanksgiving, food given locally
- Buster the Bus visited all K classes
- Splash Pledge – recited at the start of Splash assemblies - 3rd grade representatives taking part in doing skits at these assemblies
- December is “Random Acts of Kindness” month
 - Kick-off at the 11/30 SPLASH assembly
 - Spirit week
 - Kindness Tree
 - Toy Drive
 - Book of the month – *Wonder*
- Collection of gifts given to SD families donated by faculty/staff coordinated by Linda Kohan (social worker)
- Family Connection Nights to focus on kindness
- PSEG assembly on December 3rd
- Starting to roll out CPI training led by Theresa Duffy
- Using Clever and green screen technology in P.E.
- Makerspace – working to create hands-on project-based learning

Washington Primary School

- Family Night theme: Speaking Up, Speaking Loudly – families will have an optional assignment at home based on theme

- Teachers having a December Door Decorating Contest
- Principal's Book of the month
 - December: "A Fine, Fine School" by Sharon Creech
 - January: "Thank You, Mr. Falker" by Patricia Polacco
- Curriculum activities at Family Nights – a different focus each month, December's focus is Foundations and Journeys/Grammar
- Spirit Week – week before holiday break
- College Exposure Initiative – staff to display college pennants and wear college attire (January 4th)

PTA Report

- To provide support to schools in the district
- Reflections Program – brought back last year, success this year; 150 entries – hopeful for some winners
- Kindness/Mindfulness activities – piloting "Kindness Ambassadors" – students give compliments to encourage peers at the start of each day
- Art in Education – funded through PTA council
 - Character Education

SEPTA

- Increase revenue through fundraisers
 - "Elf" at John Engeman Theater
- Art to Remember is running smoothly
- Two presenters to give information to parents, one of which is a speaker from Huntington Public Library. She will speak to students about resources and programs at the library
- Support from School Psychologists – Mrs. Fletcher spoke about disabilities – had hoped more people would come

Nancy Allard - Title Funds

- Title I funds being used (After School Program)
- Title IV (After School in the spring)
- Surveys from Parent meetings – will discuss at next SDM meeting
- No Child Left Behind - documents to be shared next meeting

Report from Beth McCoy

- College Initiative – to make sure all students are aware about attending college and to expose them to many different schools
- Wrapping the After-School Reading Program for Grades 1-2; starting Grades 3-8
- Digital Portfolio for students
 - Quarterly submissions of previous work
 - Possible use of Flip Grid
 - Music students (secondary level) – to see their growth throughout High School and to give to colleges
 - Will be showcased at Monday's board meeting
- Looking at teacher practices to make sure all student needs are met
- Clever has been successful in Grades K-6. There is a request for secondary level grades. Parents need more awareness about Clever, what it is and how it works.
- Makerspace – received quotes for donations, will be used – will be implemented in K-6 libraries by the end of the year
- Video-Conferencing opportunities – encourages to bring it up at SDM to encourage teachers

- Technology Integration – Tom Deiner is pushing into classrooms to support teachers in different programs – from Title 2 funds

Hour of Code (Jill Johansen)

- Many classes are participating this week
- Jill and Marybeth Robinette held a coding PD for teachers on Code.org

NEW BUSINESS

Future Meetings: March 6, 2019 and May 29, 2019

We will be starting promptly at 4:00 p.m. Duration of the meeting will be approximately one hour. Members must be members of the Shared Decision Committee in their school. Please make sure an alternate is chosen to attend these meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Melody Renick and seconded by Michelle Kustera to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m.