

**Walton Central School District
Shared Decision Making Meeting
Thursday, December 10, 2015**

Present: Roger B. Clough II, Walton Central School District
Michael Snider, Townsend Elementary School
Michelle Reed, Walton Central School District
Gregory Dale, Walton Central School District
Robert Knuschke, Middle/High School
Lori Cetta, Walton Teachers' Association
Kelly Gates, Walton Teachers' Association
Thomas Maxwell, Walton Teachers' Association
Eric Scofield, Walton Teachers' Association
Chad Hall, PTSA
Mary Phraner, PTA
Jennifer Wright, PTA
Frank Ward, Board of Education Advisory
Jodie Day, Community Member
Joyce Bishop, Community Member
Marilynn Lewis, Community Member
Lori Connolly, Community Member
Jami Aubin, PTA President
Lillian Browne, The Reporter

Absent: Kate Minde, Walton Teacher's Association
Maureen Babcock, PTSA
Jennifer Fay, Board of Education Advisory

- 1. The meeting was called to Order at 5:00 Pm by Roger Clough, Superintendent of Schools.**
- 2. The topic of the meeting was parent involvement.**
- 3. The Townsend Elementary School first outlined parent involvement at Townsend.**

Jamie Aubin, President of the Townsend PTA, listed the following ways that the PTA helps the school with parent involvement.

36 parents, 1 board member, and 23 staff members belong to the Townsend Elementary school.

Friday Fun Nights 1 time a month.

Book Fair 3 times a year

Santa's Workshop one time per year

Box Top Clippers-ongoing

Honor Roll Sundaes three times a year.

Carnival

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon 2 times a year

Read-o-rama

Mike Snider, the principal at Townsend, listed some ways that the school involves parents:

- Open House
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Awards Ceremony
 - Student of the Week
 - Academic Awards
 - “Pat On The Back”
- OLWEUS/Citizenship awards

Mr. Snider then outlines some other ways parents are involved at Townsend Elementary School

- Projects in the classrooms
- Volunteers and Mentors

Question: Can we have Townsend Parent Conferences at night next year?

Answer: We are working on this.

4. The MS/HS next reported on Parent Involvement at the MS/HS.

Jennifer Wright, PTSA Vice-President, listed the following ways that the PTSA helps the school with parent involvement

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Music presentations
 - Art Presentations
 - Fund-Raising Dinner
- Quarterly student awards
- Parent Involvement in the Building Leadership Teams
- Math Night
- Spaghetti Dinner
- Parent & Teacher & Administrative Involvement in PTSA
 - Trying to get more staff involved
- Quarterly academic sundae awards
- Activity nights
- Box Tops
- Teacher Luncheon
- Elementary Newsletter
- Book Sale
- Advertisements of activities through social media

Rob Knushke, MS/HS Principal, added the following ways parents are involved:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences

Open House
Ice Cream social/awards
Quarterly student awards
Literary Block/Guest Reader

5. Questions and Answers

Question: Can we text parents about events/information like other districts do?

Also, can we be more consistent about e-mails?

Answer: we will attempt to be more consistent about e-mails. We will look into the possibility of texting to parents. Not sure current technology allows us to do that.

Participants were reminded that there is a lot of information on the district's website, Facebook and Instagram.

Question: Can we get more on the master calendar and work through some of the conflicts that arise on it ?

Answer: The master calendar is developed very early on and does not always include everything and is "frozen" in time as of its creation. New events will be added and event dates will change after the creation of the master calendar, especially with weather events occurring. Notices of these new events and changes are posted on the website, but would not be reflected in the master calendar.

Question: Can there be a MS/HS newsletter?

Answer: Yes, we are working on one.

6. Next meeting.

Date; March, TBD

Topics:

Improvements in grades.

Electives/programs at the MS/HS.

Curriculum changes at the elementary