

WALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SHARED DECISION MAKING

JUNE 15, 2017

Meeting Called To Order at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Roger Clough; Gregory Dale; Michael Snider; Robert Knuschke; Michelle Reed;
Kelly Gates; Domenick Piccinich; Lori Cetta; Mary Phraner; Chad Hall; Lori Connolly

I. Reports from the School

Mr. Clough reported the following:

He spoke about the mentoring program that the district has for new teachers.

There are two new Board of Education members - Graydon Dutcher and Paul Wood- who replace Jim Hoyt and Frank Ward. There will be a new President and Vice-President elected at the Re-Organizational Meeting.

Opening Day will be August 29th.

Purchasing has begun for 2017-18, and the auditors have begun their work in the district.

The district is instituting a new program-a "wrap-round" program at the elementary school run by the Oneonta YMCA mornings and afternoons. There will also be a YMCA "summer camp" again this summer, summer school for k-2 and 6-12, teacher institutes (Professional Development), and a free breakfast and lunch program over the summer.

Mr. Snider spoke about plans to hold an event 2 times a year at Townsend for adults to meet teachers without students. He also spoke about new swings being installed at Townsend.

Mr. Dale spoke about the summer cleaning and repairs done by the custodial staff.

Mr. Knuschke reported on a new PTSA being formed at the High School, a new Middle School Building Leader Team coming into existence, a new monthly newsletter, and a new Astronomy class. Someone suggested visiting the SUNY Oneonta or SUNY Binghamton observatory.

Mr. Knuschke also reported on a new 9th Grade orientation format, that Mr. Gates would be becoming the Middle School Principal, that there would be an open house on August 29th and 30th at the High School Middle School (the normal parent teacher conferences will continue later in the year). He also reminded everyone that the Parent Portal can be accessed by parents at any time to see how their children are doing.

Dr. Reed reported that because of changes to the school calendar required by SED, we will no longer be able to do evening Parent-Teacher conferences unless teachers wish to volunteer their time to do so.

There will be a new “Healthy Kids” grant program which will provide a 3 hour extended day program for sixth graders.

The district is working on its District Comprehensive Plan required by its FOCUS designation. SED appears to be moving away from the FOCUS label.

New Teacher orientation will be held August 28th.

Mrs. Gates discussed UPK field days which had just occurred.

II. Open Discussion

Ms. Connolly suggested that the district hold an ESSA meeting to explain what ESSA is. The district agreed, but indicated the ESSA is being phased out by the Federal Government.

Mr. Hall indicated that his business, Ioxus, and others in the Oneonta area would be happy to invite students in to see what they do.

Mr. Hall also indicated that the District should consider having Parent Meetings where parents can meet teachers and staff without their children (similar to the plans Mr. Snider is making, but district wide). He emphasized that Free Pizza must be made available for this to be a success.

III. Topic Review

The participants then went through a list of topics to be addressed in the future.

They decided to continue addressing discipline issues, parental involvement, curriculum, program evaluation, testing (especially results), extracurricular activities, the LINKS plan (the committee asked for a report about this), facilities/technology, health and safety, and public relations.

They decided to not continue to address attendance, homework policies, textbook/library media center resources, and scheduling.

A discussion was had about the possible existence/creation of a community pride organization.

The district was urged to tell the community about the use of the buildings by the community.

IV. Final Roundtable

Mr. Clough indicated that the district was working on an “app” for smart phones that would provide users with information about the district.

Mr. Hall indicated that “apps” could be programmed to do analytics (provide information about who visited, what they wanted, did they get it, did they follow up).

Mr. Hall reiterated his request from earlier meetings that it be made possible/more easy for people to download and integrate the district calendar into their own smartphone/computer calendars.

Ms. Connolly asked that the district provide a copy of the code of conduct to committee members before it was brought to the board. Mr. Clough agreed to this.

Mr. Clough thanked the members of the committee for their help and requested that the members of the committee agree to continue to serve on the committee and assist in recruiting new members.

Meeting Adjourned 5:25 p.m.