

Ford School Council Meeting Agenda, April 2, 2015

Members in attendance:

Tom Cole – Chairman / Parent

Courtney Kelly – Teacher

John Hudson – Secretary / Parent

Cindy Kennedy – Parent

Annette Craddock – Asst. Principal (representing Dr. Frost as she is attending off-site event)

Libby Mitchell – Teacher

- 7:37 am EST Call to order
- Roll call
- Approval of March 5th, 2015 meeting minutes – unanimously approved
- Old Business
 - Lice policy
 - Not a “Ford” problem – very prevalent in other schools, clubs, sports teams, dance studios, etc.
 - Loss of school days and financial responsible for families is not trivial
 - There is a need to take greater preventative / proactive measures since it spreads so quickly
 - Additional informational materials could in spreading awareness (e.g., start of school year, Ford 101 course, etc.)
 - Recommendation to move to a “no nit” school: students would need to show no presence of live lice or nits and this would assist with early detection
 - Recommendation was unanimously approved
- New Business
 - School Council Transition
 - PTSA and Ford Foundation nominations have been communicated to Dr. Frost and as a result, Dr. Frost is

now able to set when School Council elections will take place

- Annette believes that Dr. Frost will like to wait until new school year starts for parent School Council elections – to be confirmed
 - There was a concern that these elections could possibly get mixed in with all the hustle and bustle of a new school year
 - The opening Teacher representatives to the School Council can and should be communicated to teachers this school year to garner interest – ultimately Dr. Frost’s selection of teacher representatives
 - The need for different terms, staggered: one year term and two year terms for consistency in the leadership and membership for both Parent and Teacher categories
- Fund Raiser Guidelines
 - There have been questions such as “What is this or that for, what percentage of funds does Ford get?”
 - Examples:
 - What percentage does Ford get from “Jump Rope for Heart” – and in reality Ford does not receive any funds but the American Heart Association does get the monetary benefits, it promotes good health and the children learn about assisting others and charitable causes
 - Give Five – Cobb County Foundation receives the proceeds. Last year Tina Smith applied and got grant from Cobb County Foundation
 - Booster-thon – Ford gets 49% of the money raised
 - Some of these are mix of service project and fundraisers and show stewardship for our kids
 - Recommendations: the need for complete transparency and communication of what % goes to Ford Elementary
 - Recommendation was unanimously approved

- Joint School Council meeting
 - April 29th, 10 AM at Kemp School
 - Invitation extended by Dr. Frost via email
 - Various schools will be represented
 - All should attend that can and we will try to go to lunch as a group afterwards
 - All attend that can go and lunch afterwards

- Committee updates
 - STEM
 - STEM certification assessment – April 28th, smaller committee will be coming to Ford this time.
 - Vertical garden has been established
 - Prep by students and projects are going well
 - Use of math and graphical organizers as good example of the things Ford is doing
 - 2nd graders are doing Butterfly garden with STEM QR codes to follow
 - Suggestion of using iPad / technology to illustrate great STEM examples and student interviews for use at later times
 - Ford had visitors from Governor's office focused on 4th grade Target and River's Alive project

 - Volunteer Communications
 - Kindergarten sign up was last week and it was decided that Ford 101 will be presented at next year's orientation night , with the intent to shorten content around Ford Foundation, PTSA, etc., but nothing else will transpire this year regarding Ford 101
 - Discussion about potentially having a video around Ford 101 and delivered at each class room during orientation with some comedy content in the delivery

- Open discussion
 - Kindergarten sign up – approx. 75 signed up at pre-registration
 - Dr. Frost suggested next School Council meeting take place May 6th

- No adjustment in school schedule for snow days
 - Testing is coming up April 15, 16 and 17 for grades 3rd through 5th grade. It will be administered via online and paper and pencil. Results are not gateway results and therefore do not decide if student is moving to the next grade
- Adjourn – 8:29 am EST