

PAWCATUCK MIDDLE SCHOOL
SBIT
February 6, 2006
Minutes of Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. In attendance were: C. Albert, C. Rossi, D. Willner, D. Beverly, L. Whelan, L. George, J. Leigh, M. Rogerson, S. Hutchins, and J. Giulini

Minutes of the January meeting were read and accepted.

Principal's Report

Jane Giulini presented the Principal's Report. She discussed the recent activities which focused upon increasing parent involvement to PMS. These included:

- A Meet the Teacher reception on January 24, which was hosted by Mrs. Renee Stevens, a long-term substitute in grade 6. Mrs. Stevens provided an overview of the curriculum and her ideas for increasing student learning.
- A Math Night for parents of 7th graders on January 31. Mr. Palmer facilitated the workshop which included specific activities for parents to use with their children to strengthen math skills.
- Mrs. Bevin Winner facilitated a Learning in the Library Parent Night on February 1. She led a discussion in the library media center about how students are learning and accessing information in the LMC.

Additionally, Mrs. Giulini shared information about the CMT Math Night for parents of students in grades 1 through 5 at SHS on January 25. Two of our 5th grade teachers, Leah Pittle and Mike McLaughlin, facilitated the mini-sessions for parents of 5th graders from both PMS and MMS.

Several activities around parent involvement are scheduled at PMS for February. They include:

- Music Boosters' Pasta Supper, Science Night, and Book Fair, Feb 7.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences, Feb 9
- Mother-Daughter Volleyball, Feb 14
- Family Volleyball, Feb 15.

Mrs. Giulini noted the publicity around the Course Selection Timeline for parents of current 8th graders. All parents have received multiple notices regarding the transition activities.

Old Business

The importance of getting information to parents of 8th graders about transition activities was discussed. We will continue to publicize activities through Panther Tracks and mail information to parents.

New Business

Claudia Albert suggested posting an interest inventory about parents' interest in evening meetings around pre-adolescent social pressures and possible book discussion groups. We will follow through with this at the Book Fair tomorrow evening.

Deb Willner expressed her appreciation for Mr. McKee's letter which was included in Panther Tracks. The letter included data about suspensions resulting from misbehavior on buses. It indicated that there is no need to pursue the perceived need for bus monitors.

A discussion about bullying generated the idea of possibly extending a book discussion group which originated at WBSS. Another area of possible interest to parents is the misuse of computers by middle school students. Mrs. Giulini will speak to Officer Knowles about facilitating a workshop for parents.

Claudia Albert raised the question of possible interest in book discussion groups around how boys learn and bullying. Mrs. Giulini will talk to Bevin Winner for relevant book titles.

A discussion followed about presenting information about the Sitton Spelling program at Back-to-School Night or Parents as Partners Night in the fall. Mrs. Giulini will share tally results from the 2005 Parents as Partners Night survey so that teams can address common concerns at Back-to-School Night: 2006.

Possible agenda for the March SBIT meeting will include planning the Parents as Partners meeting slated for next October. Discussion will include topics and change the format to include question and answer groups.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.