

## **Minutes: Pierce School Council--November 10, 2010**

### In attendance:

Melanee Alexander	Imari Paris Jeffries	Nancy Springer
Carin Aquiline	Sandy Lundy	Karen Sutton
Ginny Carroll	Pipier Smith-Mumford	Chuck Silverston (PTO)

Minutes from October 7 meeting: approved with minor edits

Karen Sutton will post minutes to Pierce website and will send Broadsheet announcement with link to the post.

### Report from Oct. 26 meeting re: Principal Forums:

The meeting helped clarify the roles of School Council and PTO:

- School Council's responsibilities are directly tied to SIP.
- School Council also will take a more explicit role in planning the Principal Forums. (NOTE: This is not so much a change as it is an effort to make the Council's role in planning the Forums more explicit.)

The forums will be called "Principal's Forums" (eliminate "PTO" from the name).

### Planning for December 8 Forum:

7:00 - 8:15 PM; focus on grades K-1

Overall theme will be "phases of adjustment":

- Presentations will focus on transitions; expectations; how parents can find a balance between the push and pull of these ages--still need support, but moving towards more independence
- Goal: to reduce anxiety and comparisons for parents (e.g. Should my child be reading?)

Format:

- Welcome by Pipier
- Panel: Amie Buchman, Susan Liepman, Mary Gabriel, Tara Washburn
- Grade-level discussions based on questions submitted anonymously by parents: "What are you wondering about regarding your child in K-1?"

Logistics:

- \* index cards for "wonders"
- \* nametags
- \* chairs in circle in science rooms for breakout groups
- \* need a few School Council members in attendance to help facilitate groups, if needed

### Role of room parents:

draft “Role of Room Parents” approved

Purpose of role description--to emphasize the communication role of room parents as another link between PTO and School Council and the grades

K-1 room parents will be asked to contact the parents in their rooms about:

- \* K-1 Principal’s Forum
- \* Henry Bear’s Park wrapping fundraiser

PTO will contact half the room parents; SC (Karen Sutton) will contact half.

Efforts to improve communication between Council and school community:

Broadsheet announcement before each meeting, including date/time of meeting and agenda, and a clear “All are welcome” blurb

Make sure meeting dates are updated on school website

Post minutes to school website

Next meeting: Dec. 9, 7 AM . Imari Paris Jeffries will bring snacks.