

Steck CSC Meeting Minutes 11/14/18

Attendees: Maribel Barragan, Liz Peitnek, Courtney Levkulich, Marie Lowe, Aliane I, Elizabeth Kaplansky, Chrissi Brescoll, John D'Onofrio, Stacy Harris, Magnus Svard, Becca Thomas, Robin Kline, Mirriah Elliott

Meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes were passed for review. Approval to take place after other agenda items.

Centralized Communication: In response to parent confusion due to multiple lines of communication with duplicate info, Mr. Almon presented an overview of all existing lines of communication. Communication channels include school-level, classroom generated, and parent group managed (PTSA newsletter, Facebook, etc.)

A discussion was had regarding educating parents (particularly at the start of the school year) about the various channels and how one can opt in/out.

Direct further comments/suggestions to Mr. Almon.

School Performance Framework (SPF): Mirriah presented the 2017/2018 SPF results. Steck is once again a "Distinguished" or "Blue" school.

Steck's parent survey return rate was only 63% last year.

Steck had a lower score on parent satisfaction, possibly due to low survey participation (unhappy people are more likely to complete and return the survey).

Research shows involved families lead to good outcomes. Steck has a very involved parent population.

Goals include continuing work to close the opportunity gap and whole child education. While child education initiatives include MELD, Wonderful Wednesdays and the class being run by the school psychologist.

Instructional focus areas included increased differentiation in the classroom and Whole Child Empowering Education.

Comments from the parent survey included remarks on ineffective/insufficient communication (it was proposed that perhaps parents are referring to teacher -> parent communication specifically, rather than school -> parent)

Mirriah stated that Safe to Tell is a resource for all students and parents to anonymously report concerns.

GT Funding: Two parents presented their findings regarding Steck's GT Staffing. They would like to see Kat's time increased from .5 to .75.

Concerns were raised about the school's ability to maintain the necessary funding each academic year, as well as school-wide fundraising (PTSA) benefiting only a small group of students. Additionally, a question was raised that if funds were to be allocated to a small group of students, wouldn't those students who were struggling academically, be better served with extra resources. Mirriah stated that the positions who serve that population are fully staffed and funded.

Minutes were approved, and meeting was adjourned at 4:35.