

District Parent Advisory Committee

September 25, 2012

1st Quarter Minutes

Present: Jonathan Manton (UMS), Jennifer Gilber (Thomas Paine), Lashaunda Cunningham (UMS), Daniel Bodony (Leal), Ada Stamper (Leal), Anita Rent (Yankee Ridge), Julia Guth (Wiley), Stephaine Cockrell (King), Darcy Silver (Central Office), Jennifer Frerichs (Central Office)- Christine Atkinson via e-mail (YR)

The meeting began at 5:38 pm with individual introductions and a word of appreciation to each of the committee members for their time and service. Jennifer Frerichs provided background information outlining the group's focus under the District's Strategic Plan, Parent Engagement policy & newly created Parent Engagement statement. Jennifer Frerichs then presented a Power Point explaining the work of the Community and Family Engagement (FACE) external audit that was completed last June. Some parents shared evidence of the new strategies being implemented in the schools as a result of the FACE audit. King's recent Curriculum Night, Leal's "Family Friendly Parking" signs and Yankee Ridge's newsletters, that update families on student learning targets, were all well received. One parent stated that they would like to see our schools share and duplicate some of these great ideas. The group then briefly reviewed the Summary reports for each building provided by the CAFÉ group. Jennifer notified the DPAC team that the data results would be posted on the district website in the near future and the recommendations set forth within the data would be our focus for the year. Each committee member will be sent the complete data report for their building in addition to the minutes. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

General Concerns:

A concern was expressed regarding Spanish translations being sent to families from Urbana School District. Many documents are grammatically incorrect and a poor reflection of our school district. Families have expressed their frustration with this continued problem and believe that it is culturally offensive. Jennifer Frerichs stated that she would share the information and that these are issues that the district wants to address through the Strategic Plan as well as this committee.

Next meeting: November 13, 2012 at Central Office, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.