

Peirce School Council Minutes
January 16, 2014

Present: Ishir Bhan, Nick Nesta, Katya Salkever, Mark Chitty, Barbara DePasquale, Joanne Malouf, Georgia Smith

Review/Approval of Minutes, December 12, 2013

Motion by Barbara DePasquale, second by Ishir Bhan. Approved unanimously.

School Improvement Plan.

We will continue to review this draft before the February 27, 2014 meeting and identify revisions and suggestions for improvement.

Health and Wellness

Mark and Mandy met with representatives from WellCoin and Health Commissioner Dori Zaleznik on December 16th. They proposed that Peirce be allowed to participate as a “family” with each grade level registered as a “child.” Total points could potentially earn a donation to a local non-profit organization from a local business. We are still waiting for a final decision.

Student Council has been emphasizing hand washing and keeping hands off of faces in an effort to slow the spread of flu, colds, and stomach bugs.

Writing Update

Students have concluded the Narrative Writing Unit and are beginning the Opinion unit. They are identifying topics of importance and working with “boxes and bullets” to organize their thoughts.

Technology

Jamie Lightfoot, Instructional Technology Specialist and Librarian, attended the meeting and talked about technology acquisition and utilization at Peirce. The district is funding more purchase of equipment than in recent years, with the goal of five screens per classroom. We discussed apps for iPads that are helpful, and Jamie will share a list of apps that we use in school with families. We also talked about the types of professional development that are present or would be helpful for teachers. There have been few workshops dedicated to technology in recent years, and little curriculum has been written at the district level for particular devices due to the variations in equipment across the district. With new purchasing initiatives by the district, more curriculum is being developed that incorporates specific devices and programs.

Next meeting: February 27, 2014.