

Peirce School Council Minutes
June 12, 2014

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

Review/Approval of Minutes, May 8, 2014

Motion to Approve by Barbara. Second by Mandy. Approved unanimously.

Health and Wellness Initiatives

We talked about the Health Fair, which will be an afternoon and evening event in early November. More communication about details and an invitation to participate will be sent to all parents by Mark in mid-August. We will seek approximately two dozen health professionals (drawn from the parent and staff communities) to share their expertise in areas related to health and wellness. This will include such diverse roles as teachers, trainers, therapists, physicians, and researchers. Our goal is to present each topic in child-friendly language and engage students in further research on the topics. One suggestion that we will explore is the adoption of Health Fair topics by students and/or classes for further research. This would provide accountability for engagement.

Playground Grand Opening

The playground opened on schedule on June 6th. The grand opening took place at the Family Dance and was well-attended. Thanks to the Peirce Community for the incredible success of this project!

Enrollment for Next Year

We still plan to have 15 classrooms with a total enrollment of 315 students. There have been few changes since the May 8th meeting.

***Mindset* Community Read**

Next year, parents will be invited to join staff in reading the book *Mindset* by Carol Dweck. This text helps us think about the ways in which we build either a “fixed” or a “growth” mindset in children through the feedback we give them. Our goal is to reflect as a community about how we build resilience in children, helping them to value failure as an opportunity for learning and to attribute success to effort rather than to innate ability. Mark will write more about this community conversation in mid-August, and he will seek parent volunteers to host book groups in their homes. We will also have evening events early and late in the year to inaugurate and bring closure to the dialogue.

Process/Membership for Next Year

All members of the council will remain next year, with the exception of Katya, who has served for three years. Thanks to all for their service this year, and a special thank to Katya as she departs! In the fall, the PTO will hold an election for Katya’s seat.

Next meeting: To be determined- October, 2014. Best summer wishes!