

# Parent Council Meeting Minutes

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Parent Council Meeting: Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

## **I. Welcome**

A brief welcome and introduction was given by Ben Richards. Refreshments were served – Thanks Ting Ting!

## **II. Check-In (group discussion)**

At the beginning of the meeting, the attendees introduced themselves. In attendance at this meeting were:

- Amy Martel: K-EM Parent Council & Class Co-Representative
- Brenda Haak: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Parent, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent & Faculty Chair
- Vicki Dunlop: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Council Representative & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent
- Ben Richards: K-BH Parent, Parent Council Chair & Parent Handbook Committee Chair

## **III. Open Discussion (group discussion)**

Ben presented a handout with four (4) topics. Group discussion followed:

### Parent Media Forum

Parent Council is looking to re-capture the momentum generated from the April meeting and David Maier's presentation. A small group may be formed next school year to continue this practical discussion for parents.

A point was raised that alternating monthly Parent Council meetings, from "Business" to a guest speaker or "ask the Faculty a question" night, might encourage greater attendance and parent interest in the Council.

### Parent Handbook

The final dress code has been received. The Parent Handbook committee will investigate adding this policy to the MWS website.

### Summer Gathering for Kindergarten and (incoming) 1<sup>st</sup> Grade families

Parent Council was asked, by the Kindergarten teachers, to organize informal "Summer Gatherings" for all 40+ Kindergarten Cottage families: K-BH, K-EM, K-MLB, incoming first graders and incoming Kindergartners. Community building, especially for families new to MWS, is the goal for these gatherings.

Ben will engage the Kindergarten Parent Council Representatives to scope and plan these Gatherings. Information is to be distributed to all Kindergarten families the last week of school.

#### School grounds work

Brenda reported that the Landscape Committee, a sub-committee of the (Board) Building Committee, is being restarted. The Faculty is working to define the Pedagogical requirements for the school's landscaping over the next few weeks.

An introductory work day is planned for Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 12:00 AM. All interested Parent Council Representatives are encouraged to attend.

### **III. Closing**

- Ben Richards adjourned the meeting (early!) following the Open discussion.
- The next Parent Council Meeting will be scheduled for mid-September. No summer meetings are planned.