

NAME OF BOARD/COMM: Happy Hollow School Council

FILED BY: Tricia O'Reilly

DATE OF MEETING: April 13, 2023

TIME OF MEETING: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE OF MEETING: Happy Hollow School Conference Room

Present:

Tricia O'Reilly

Lise Weig

Rachel Scott

Miriam Morrison

Ryan Rideau (Virtual)

Michelle Claussen (Virtual)

Nan Jahnke

Andrea Gellerstein

3:00 1. Public comment

3:05 2. Discussion and Approval of Minutes from March 16, 2023 meeting

3:15 3. Presentation of end of year procedures, expectations and traditions

3:45 4. Open Discussion/Questions

4:00 5. Adjournment

Minutes:

3:00 1. Public comment: Andrea asked for public comment and there was no public comment.

3:05 2. Discussion and Approval of Minutes from March 16, 2023 meeting.

Tricia made a motion to approve the minutes. Lise seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

3:15 3. Presentation of end of year procedures, expectations and traditions:

Andrea: Three week process of creating equitable and well balanced classes for the next school year. Take into account: gender balance, ethnicity, learning profiles, behaviors.

Tricia: Classes are blind with no teachers attached. Tricia and the team check everything. After teachers have made classes, Tricia and Rachel attach teachers to each class. Used to be a system of index cards and we now use a software system called Class Composer.

Lise: Previous year teachers sometimes double check to make sure everything is ok. Not a perfect science.

Tricia: I get a lot of requests from parents that aren't in the guidelines, both friend and teacher requests. Room for error but we try our best and I think it comes out pretty well each year.

Tricia: Classes are announced on Move along Day on June 13th. The whole school moves to their new class. Used to be letters home in August; I wouldn't go back. Even though it's work to have to shift our mindset to next year, it is super helpful. Families aren't waiting all summer for the information.

Lise: I love it; the kindergartners get really excited about it when they come to the 1st grade room. Sometimes siblings are disappointed when they don't have an older sibling's teacher.

Miriam: Total positive.

Andrea: Shifts aren't possible with changes over the summer.

Tricia: We don't have as many shifts over the summer. Brand new teacher for 4th grade will be here to do Move Along Day.

Michelle: As a new parent, I didn't have input but I think it was nice to offer to parents.

Andrea: 5th grade end of year things:

- Clap out: On last day of school.(Andrea); The whole school lines the hallways and the students walk through and high five everyone. (Tricia) Best thing in the world for the kids and it costs nothing.
- 5th grade play: (Miriam) All the 5th graders are in. Evening performance for families and all students get to see it. Very special. (Andrea): All kids participate which is so incredible. (Tricia): Amy Pohl is amazing at celebrating each kid and what they love. Even during Covid, there was a play. Each student videotaped themselves and the teachers put it together as a play.
- Open House: Some grades have open houses for families (Miriam): Parents can walk around and look at work. We would then perform a song. (Lise): Similar to Miriam, we did a performance, but we pulled back from that and now let them sing a song. The tricky part is the end of the year fills up really quickly. If the chicks hatch, we move our end of the year celebration to time with the hatching of the chicks. Parents get to see the chicks, student work and some little songs. Last year was a relief to not have to plan these vents.
- Tricia: Last year we had a big surge of Covid in May, so we decided not to host these events.
- PTO sponsors an end of the year picnic.
- Miriam: Last Assembly where we sing a song to the students. Please make sure this happens. (Trica will make sure this happens:)
- Tricia: Space continues to be the greatest issue we have.
- Lise: Field Day is on June 12th. Tug Of War.

Andrea: Anything to have on the agenda for our last meeting?

Michelle: When is the handbook going on line?

Tricia: Soon. Want to make it ready for our next principal.

Andrea: What things might be helpful for the new, incoming principal?

Tricia: School Council is a one year commitment. Doesn't mean you can't run again or be on it again.
3:45 5. Open Discussion/Questions 4:00 6. Adjournment: Lise made the motion to adjourn. Rachel seconded it.