

Meeting Minutes Black Rock SGC December 15, 2021

In Attendance: Steve Cassidy, Cindy Avery, Jennifer Bryan, Christopher Geist, Sue Ellen Powell, Luz Sanchez, Bahati Walker, Christina Bell, Alyssa Zebrowski

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed. No changes were needed Sue Ellen Powell motioned to accepted seconded by Steve Cassidy. Minutes accepted

Principal's report

- IAB has been completed data was reviewed by the Data Teams.
- The first session of after school clubs has ended. There has been a lot of student participation in 11 different clubs.
- Change in Quarantine policy to screen and stay for students who have been exposed. Parents agree to monitor their students daily.
- Question to the group: Lexia and Waggle. Should there be a short question and answer session for parents? It could be an evening session. Sue Ellen suggested a simple flyer be sent home. Parents of younger students may be interested. Discussion followed. Older students will transition to Conn Academy in a few months. The session will be done by remote. It could also be part of a math night, broadcast, or PSA? The parents should be encouraged to provide a short amount of time each night. Lexia is not meant to replace reading a book, it is meant to supplement. The goal is to help build a routine like learning to play the piano. A little time every day. Math night will be online as of now and will happen before reading night. Reading night may be in person during the spring. Waggle and Lexia can be part of both nights.

Project and Enrichment opportunities.

1. Beautification committee.

- Bahati reported. Library murals. A mural for the gym and outside. A clear coat needs to be applied. Erin Buckley will make herself available along with Mr. Payne. The work outside will have to wait until spring. There is an issue with interior access with basketball practice going on in the gym. A budget will be drafted and presented at the next meeting.

2. Enrichment opportunities.

- So far mostly information has been gathered. The projects that have been presented are solid ideas. As more information comes in, a decision on fund raising will have to be made. Discussion followed.
- Mr. Payne has been discussing with the people from Nature's Classroom. They can do a program here at Ellsworth Park, but the cost is \$40 per student.
- Ms. Zebrowski asked about after-school classes for students, specifically with Hands On Pottery.

- Ms. Powell discussed the eighth-grade trip to the local escape room. The escape room could also be set up as a fundraiser for the school.
- Ms. Sciliano-Kenney provided the results of the survey. The results need to be analyzed. Ms. Avery will report at the next meeting.
- Please look over the listings from the Fairfield museums. There are a lot of programs on local history. Connecticut Audubon society has a lot of low-cost distance learning programs especially for the younger grades. Discussion followed. Reading buddies between grades if it is allowed. Mr. Cassidy says it is possible. It is already happening with the national junior honor society following safety protocols.
- Heritage festival will take place in spring, Luz reported that the event will be outside and will have more information later.
- Sue Ellen suggested having some TED Talks on living history. Someone who experienced an event could come and talk to students with a Q & A at the end. The interviews could be live or via TEAMS. Interviews could be of a nurse who treated COVID patients, or a Vietnam Veteran. TED talks could be an evening event to include parents.
- Lauren Tarshis, the author of I Survived book series. She could present to students, or even parents, her experiences. Virtual meetings are possible with her. Reading night might be a suitable time. Sue Ellen has her contact info.
- Community Service Idea: Partner with Woofgang Bakery (produces dog treats.) The bakery employs adults with disabilities. 8th grade students could learn from working alongside adults with disabilities.

Old Business: None to discuss.

New Business:

- Fundraising: There was discussion about an event that could bring in big dollars. A reception at the Red Line Restorations was discussed. For BRS families, a pancake breakfast, penny wars, movie night etc. Bridgeport Islanders ticket sales (BRS night) could be used as a fundraiser. Raffling off a sky box suite was also discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:32PM. The next meeting will be January 12, 2022 which will focus on fundraising.

Respectfully submitted

Christopher Geist