

PIC Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2012
Co-Chairs Judy Saydah/Maria Wheaton

I.-Dr. William George, Superintendent of Schools

Storm Update: 192 displaced families in the district, 5 families are living out of district, all others are being bussed back to their home school. The district worked with the YMCA and provided counseling for these families. A committee made up of staff members was set up in each school to identify the needs for each of these families. There is a website concerning this linked on the district web site.

Website: A new website is under construction. We will see evidence of this at the Board of Education meeting scheduled for Dec 20th. The first phase planned on being up and running on Jan 2, 2013 and will be constantly updated until all pieces are updated. School Wire is the company they are using. PTA/PTO/PFA basically the school websites will remain the same only the schools home page will change. The 17 schools individual home pages will be the same to insure continuity for distribution of district & school information.

Curriculum: Dr. George and Dr. Takacs continue to visit and monitor class room development in all 17 schools.

Calendar: the new school calendar which reflects the changes due to Hurricane Sandy can be found on the District Web site.

II.- Dr. Jill Takacs, Ed. D., Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

The Journeys Language Arts Pilot, currently in select first and fourth grade classrooms, focuses on strategy instruction and researched-based best practices. This incorporates many of the instructionally sound methodologies currently utilized in Middletown. The feedback from parents, staff and students has been overwhelmingly positive. We will continue to evaluate the viability of adopting this program for next year. This is an update with regards to the PIC 4/3/12 meeting.

Curriculum:

- Child Assault Prevention (CAP) – 3 Parent information meetings are scheduled ,
Jan.4th- 9am Thompson, Jan.7th- 7pm Bayshore, Jan.10th- 7pm Thorne
More information on CAP can be found on the following web site (**NJCAP.org**) www.NJCAP.org
- Literacy Initiatives - training was provided on Word Study and Readers Workshop to staff.
- Formative Assessments – The district will be using various measures to regularly assess students. Ongoing assessment is called formative assessment. These assessments are to gauge student progress in real time and assist teachers in developing lessons. Not all formative assessments are graded or sent home to parents. Their primary purpose is to inform teachers and students of progress so that subsequent teaching and learning can be planned and aligned to specific student's needs.
- Elementary Report Cards – hard copies will be printed because there are limitations in the parent portal program. The printed version contains more information than would be available on the parent portal. The Elementary report cards have been updated and streamlined this is in response to Parents dissatisfied with the old report card. The report card committee responsible for the new report card had parent members. Elementary grades will no longer be available on the portal.

III -Mrs. Walker, District Director of Operations

Student Athletic Info: Guidance/Athletic Director /Coaches will have informative sessions during for the student athlete and their parents concerning playing sports in college, recruiting and scholarships. The guidance counselors will speak with the student athletes individually as well. Coaches are educated on the rules regarding the NCAA and NJSIA. The

District athletic department will be doing more as far as providing information for the student athlete that wants to continue their sports career at the College level.

IV – Mrs. McKenzie, Principal for Transition of Instruction / Testing and ESEA Coordinator

Bullying Training: In September 2011 there were 15 incidents of HIB, in September 2012 there were 0. Those who have been trained do not need to be trained again, but if you'd like a refresher at your school please contact Mrs. McKenzie. All volunteers still need to be trained and there will be training available for new volunteers—online. One of Mrs. McKenzie H.I.B. presentations will be taped and placed on the District web page. Watching the video will meet the requirement for H.I.B. training. The HIB training as it did last year will continue to have a section on internet safety and cyberbullying. An internet safety/cyberbullying parent training will be scheduled for February or March 2013.

Mrs. McKenzie had a HIB training session with the coaches from the Middletown Athletic Club upon the Clubs request. PIC Reps requested that our District coaches have the same HIB training.

Internet Safety: .The middle schools students attend an assembly with regards to Internet safety .An assembly had to be rescheduled due to hurricane Sandy. PIC reps requested that District hold a meeting for parents regarding Internet Safety and mobile device issues with regards to HIB/NJ Law/Federal Law and District policy. Mrs. McKenzie has reached out to Detective Godley to present on internet safety also to be held in February or March 2013

V. Review of Committees

Joan Minniues/Board of Education President

Calendar: The Board is requesting the Governor relieve some of the 180 days so we do not have to go until June 27th. Regarding the calendar, the goal was to add back days that would be educationally relevant and not just add them to the end of the year. That is why the holidays were chosen.

Needs of many displaced families are bedding and Rubbermaid tubs are items they are looking for now but many things that these families will need, won't be needed until later and there is no storage available right now so please hold onto large items. B.O.E. commended District and our social workers and school counselor's for the great job they are doing in attending to the needs of our students and their families.

Karen Antone/Middletown Township Friends Of Different Learners

MFODL is advertising upcoming events on eventbrite.com

MTFODL: Jan 14th meeting with Pro Ac—how to accommodate Middle School and High School children. Please contact mtfodl@gmail.com a smart phone calendar is also available.

Please note items discussed at PIC that are in the developing and or a transition state are subject to change.