

Vergennes Union Middle and High School
Commodore Parent Teacher Group
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2017
VUHS Room C2 from 6:30-8:00pm

Attendees: Lynne R, Sue H., Tania B., Melanie C, Jay S, Kira W.

Guests for presentation: V-RED students, Leila McVeigh, Lori Stith, School Board Members, Community Members.

- Presentation from the middle school student prevention group, V-RED (Vergennes for Responsible Educated Decisions).

V-RED members presented some of the results of the last Risk Assessment Survey in 2015. They explained their process of deciding three areas of concern to focus on. They shared how they plan to address each concern and asked for ideas from the audience. Many school board members and administrators were in attendance because they took a break from their budget meeting to attend. Some parents of the students presenting also attended.

- Meeting Minutes Review Kira
- Treasurer Report Sue

Sue handed out a spreadsheet showing the CPTG financial happenings in the last two months. It was acknowledged that Team Phoenix was expected to repay the CPTG \$175 because they did not do all the activities that they had been awarded money for. They only paid back \$125 but the group agreed that that was okay. The group thought it was a good idea to send out another reminder to staff about grant funds. **ACTION ITEM:** Tania agreed to send info to staff.

- Administrative Update Jay / Stephanie

Jay said the Math Team was very appreciative that the CPTG awarded \$500 for t-shirts. He also attended a Project Graduation meeting recently and let them know that our group usually helps to fund the event. But he did not tell

them how much we have awarded in the past and told them they needed to formally request it if they wanted funds.

Jay is looking for parent and community ideas regarding the following areas:

-creating a culture and climate of acceptance for all (for example in the area of LGBTQ+)

-looking for good ways to get the word out about suicide prevention.

Then the topic turned to the area of internet awareness. The group talked about a film that was shown at Middlebury College and four times to MUHS called "Screenagers". **ACTION ITEM:** Jay said he would reach out to Julie Gramling (she had seen it with her kids) for more details. Sue H. said she would help with this.

- Reminder: Unification Dance Party on January 21 Melanie

Melanie shared all the details of the event. The time had been adjusted from 6-8 to 6-9. It will most likely take place in the Middle School Gym due to possible damage of the High School Gym floor. She asked the CPTG to put up posters. **ACTION ITEM:** Sue agreed to do that - thanks Sue. **ACTION ITEM:** The V-RED group will be asked to make a box to collect any money donated to the Middle School/High School. She shared that the purpose of the event is to invite the community to be part of a school event in hopes that they will be more willing to support the schools. She thinks that next year there may be the addition of student performances.

- Staff appreciation brainstorm All

The group brainstormed staff appreciation ideas for the 60-65 staff members. Ideas included:

Hot chocolate and cookies sometime

Brunch at the upcoming inservice day, Monday, January 23

Chair massage

Water bottles and/or healthy food (bananas) with messages of thanks on them

Raffle prizes during staff appreciation week in May like movie tickets, gift certificates to bookstores, other items donated by area merchants.

Offering a Fusion program that focused on the students making staff appreciation gifts.

ACTION ITEM: Lynne will talk with FUSION coordinator to see if we can team up with students during a class session to work on staff appreciation ideas. **ACTION ITEM:** Lynne will put together a sign-up genius request for

brunch items Monday, January 23rd and send around to group for donations.

ACTION ITEM: Lynne and Sue H. will staff the brunch - thank you Lynne and Sue!! **ACTION ITEM:** Tania will look into costs of massage.

We will continue to work on more ideas next month.

- Fundraising - if time

All

The group did not address fundraising.

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