

Council of School Councils – April 28, 2016 Table Discussion Notes

Proud of

Table 1 – (Green) Elementary

- Multi-Cultural night
 - 500-600 people attend
- Built Ice Castle
 - Each student has their own block
- We made it!
- Supporting Multi-cultural programs at school, after school activities
- Got through our Casino
- Team building for Council Exec.
- Recruit new Council members

Table 2 – (blue smaller print)

- Maker night
 - Parent council partnered w' teachers & organizations to promote learning commons
- Booking book fair 'accidentally' with student led sharing night
- Math night
 - Ed. event for parents incl. babysitting
- Math night family event with kids stations
- Small school, high program involvement benefit from casino funds. High PC involvement. Literacy night
- Science Fair, Learning nights, Artist in Residence, Carnival

Table 3 – (black/red)

- Staffing casinos on holidays
- Having people come out to school council! / up in numbers
- Team work
- Fundraising revenue increased
 - Possibly better . more relevant items old to community

Table 4 – (blue) Elementary

- Good turnout (stickers!)
- Award of merit for AB (Tuscany)
- Straw School Council & Society for new school about to open
- Parent happiness re" council work (survey)
- Peaceful parenting session
- Parent engagement & education (eg. Girls/guy power)
- Variety of activities for parents/kids/staff
- Nutrition night, math night
- Dare to care kids/parents/staff
- Steamlined volunteer opt-in process
- Fun fair
- Childcare during meetings

Table 5 – (brown - blue) Elementary

- No more fundraising 1 time only direct contributions per student (yearly in the fall) – whatever you can afford + company matching parent body very receptive
- Existing as a school council at all
 - First big step
- Principal updates at school council meetings
- Potluck culinary event
- Potluck for parent teacher interview

Table 6 – (blue) Middle/Jr.

- Toonie jar @ parent/teacher interviews, promoted by leadership students
- Clothing and sporting equipment swap
- For volunteers, set up table to encourage volunteer sign up

Table 7 – (brown) Middle/Jr.

- Outdoor classroom completion
- Volunteer spirit! Excellent parent engagement this year & open communication
- Getting parent support/buying to complete playground proposal
- Homeschool parent engagement
- Streamlined communications
- Filling council position with committed parents

Table 8 - (red) High

- Good guest speakers
 - AHS mental health
 - Law students what no means
 - Teenage brain
 - AADAC
- Teacher appreciation
- Use of sign up genius

Goals for Next Year

Table 1 - (Green)

- Activities to reach more/different families
- Working with new admin, changes as a result of new schools
- Community involvement, getting more parents out
- Traffic safety
 - Marked crosswalk
- Installed accessible playground!
- Focussed on community building events
- Brought in lunch for teachers/staff on 'decision day'
- Worked together as a council/staff to create 'season of giving'



Table 2 – (blue smaller print)

- More fundraising or more successful fundraising
- More parental involvement
- More coordinated intentional planning/communication
- Stronger communication between parents & parent council
- Events & Learning sessions
 - i.e. marker nights, enrichment activities, parent learning sessions

Table 3 – (black/red)

- to get new playground
- continue to get people to show up
 - new initiatives to entice members
- recruitment for school council
- get schools to capitalize on growing numbers of available parent volunteers
- better (more accessible) process to training parents on obtaining PIC's
 - can the CBE get the CPS to create a mock name to do a run through (simulations at a council meeting)
- improve diversity (gender, ethnicity, time in school) of council members
- continue to improve channels of communication to parents with languages other than English (@cr for council meetings)
- consider offering childcare by grade 6 learners who go through the babysitting course
- consider creating/opening more roles on school council to get people more meaningfully engaged
- survey existing roles
 - do they need more help?
 - Can more people take on the role?
- Consider inviting parents to school council via the teachers.
 - Maybe each grade level has a rep?
- Review legacy spending, and analyze the value of wish lists form principals or teachers
 - Consider surveying kids to know how they feel about proposed projects

Table 4 – (blue) Elementary

- Get parents 'opted-in' online
- Improve teacher engagement in council meetings
- Consistently communicate council work to parents. Why are we relevant?
- Transparency re: funds
- Continue to seek greater parent attendance at meetings
- New, topical fundraising eg. Farm to School

Table 5 – (brown - blue) Elementary

- New blood on school council (challenge) need fresh faces
- Entice K parents
- Finding school council purpose



Have a goal for each meeting

Table 6 – (blue) Middle/Jr.

Nothing written that matches this type

Table 7 – (brown) Middle/Jr.

- Community engagement in council meetings; more resources for parents (i.e. CPL info sessions, etc.)
- Highlighting teacher & student accomplishments at council meetings
- Lobbying for school modernization
- Building a plan for fundraising \$'s going forward
- Smooth leadership transition in parent council & teacher/admin/principal
- More parent engagement; more parents at meetings

Table 8 - (red) High

- Increase parent attendance
- Succession planning
- Grade 9 open house
- Facilitate connection between junior high & senior high parent councils
 - Message emails
 - Post meeting dates
- Continue excellent support of principal and all students