

Springfield Public Schools District 186
Parent Engagement Roundtable
November 4, 2015

NOTES:

Celebrations & Updates: Attendance/Behavior, SIG, ...

Graduation Rate went up 9% in our last 4-year cohort of students!

These students all needed 26 credits to graduate, they had opportunities for Credit Recovery, students were able to take part in Making the Grade Conferences with community volunteers, and all three high schools have had the same principals and most staff. Southeast and LHS graduation rate increased by 10% and SHS by 7%

Attendance Data Improved:

There are more Attendance teams at the schools – with growth at Enos, McClernand, H. Park
Parent: Will there be documentation from Attendance committee have a tally? – Yes we look at data regularly. Some data is looking at the reasons families call in and then how we can add supports.

There are multiple factors that effect attendance: Bus behavior, family obligations, medical needs, etc.

Parent: If student is Late for 0 hour class does that factor in to attendance. After certain time in morning student is considered absent half or full day.

Ideas;

Could parents be trained to help on busses?

Suspension Data Improved:

The total number of suspensions has dropped in all schools, with over 50% reduction in total student suspensions and days out of school!

Other discussion:

What is ...Soft Lockdown – no one comes in or out of the school.

- Usually something happens in the neighborhood

Hard Lockdown is when something is happening in the school.

For future: could we look at desegregated data to compare groups and trends?

School Improvement Grant

Matheny-Withrow, Lee and Lanphier wrote for School Improvement grants.

We made it though the first round because we heard that some schools are out of the running all ready. There will be 1 year of Planning and 4 years of implementation.

We should know by January if we are

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awarded the grants.

How were the results from LHS with the SIG?

Graduation cohort is 10% up.

Prof. Development was best for LHS teachers – focus on us.

They had results from Summer School program.

Parent asked: was there any evaluation from summer school? What is the Cost and Value of the program?

Parent Teacher Conferences – How did they go?

Discussion:

- Ability to email and talk with teachers at different times helped when parents could not come.
- Jefferson MS held Student led conferences. Parent stated she had difficulty learning about progress from her daughter. (6th grader and first time for student led conference.)

Ideas: Could parents have questions to ask students? Maybe more practice for students before the conference? May not be successful if your student is shy?

Other middle schools have conferences with teachers in the gym. Parents wait in line to meet with teachers. No privacy.

Need more communication from high school, no calls,

What is the Goal/Point of PTC?

For Parent:

- I want to talk to the teacher – what are you seeing and this is what I see.
- How can we work together to help my child
- We need FACE time/feedback with teachers

For Teacher/school:

- Help catch the students that are failing
- Talk with parents to build relationships

Ideas:

More student led conferences at upper levels

Use technology to do a google hangout or other interactive program.

Welcome Walkthrough – Visit schools

- Work out times to visit schools
- Environment, classrooms, ...

Bring ideas on what we can do on visits to December meeting.

Other Discussion:

Online Bookbag – High School flyers

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More PR and information about using the Online Bookbag.

Ideas:

- Robo call – to let all parents know about online bookbag
- Could be used at High Schools for; Senior info, sports, Cap and gown info, Medical info...

Parent: The city is asking for residency for their employees. Could we have all staff live in District 186?

Grandfather current staff and have this for new staff?

No discussion at this time.

Supt. Gill: We are looking for Spec Ed Attendants and subs for this position.

Please spread the word. They would need a Para Pro license, pass ETS test, Workkeys or have Associates Degree.

Next Meeting: December 2, 2015

Future Meetings:

January 6, February 3, March 2, April 6, May 4, 2016

Check out Parent Engagement Roundtable webpage:

<http://www.sps186.org/familyengagement/?p=10171>

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