William Penn Community Council meeting
December 12, 2017 at 7:15 AM
Next Meeting: January 23, 2018

Present
Parents: Alison Parsons, Tiffany Riley, Melissa Stringham, Sidsie Drysdale,
Teachers: Jen Foulke, Holly Rawlings
Principal: Kent Nixon
District: Carrie New

Air Quality
The two-week Anti-Idling program was quite successful. We don’t have an ongoing program in place yet, as discussed at our last meeting. Sidsie will contact Ms. Hunter and coordinate efforts to have two students per week on anti-idling patrol from November through March.

Bathroom Cleanliness
The order banning unsupervised use of hand sanitizer in the classroom was found to be a misunderstanding at the district level and communicated as such to the schools. We now have hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes back in the classroom. Donations would be appreciated. Kent followed up on the having soap in the bathroom dispensers and since then dispensers have been adequately filled.

Dual Immersion Lottery
We have two options for moving forward with our classroom structure in regard to the Dual Immersion (DI) program. We had 85 applications with 50 in-bound, 20 out of bound and 24 sibs. We have 60 slots.

Option 1: Accept 47 in-bound and 17 out-of-bound. We then have two traditional classes and 2 DI classes. Class size for the traditional students will be 21 and for DI students will be 30. All new move-ins will be split between two classes and class sizes remain more manageable. The con is that 7 Penn families will not get accepted into the DI program and they may leave the school based on this. The pro, however, is that class sizes for traditional students will be only 21.

Option 2: Accept all 51 in-bound, 9 out-of-bound and have one open slot. The caution is that with only 9 out-of-bound we have only 34 non-DI students resulting in only one traditional class. Moving forward all new move-ins will have to go into this class as well. Class size for the traditional students will be 34 and 30 for the DI students. The pro is that all in-bound families get into DI.

A vote was called. The vote was unanimous for acceptance of Option 1.

Technology grant/chrome books
There is a grant WP is applying for that would provide one cart of Chromebooks per teacher throughout the school which is basically one computer per student. The requirement is a monthly training to be attended by the principal. Kent will submit the application for this by end of week. We will hear back by early March. The outcome of this will inform our decisions about how we spend some of our land trust dollars.
Full-time STS/Dance Teacher and additional programs

We are in jeopardy of not having a dance teacher next year. We can use Land Trust money for dance but we also need to know what other needs we have for our Land Trust money. It was agreed that having the dance program is a great asset at WP and is highly valued. STS is also important but it was acknowledged that there are ongoing problems in this area and at this point council members feel our efforts are better focused on maintaining dance. WP will have its’ annual Art Night fundraiser and we will look at funding next meeting.

Future of Penn – Dual Immersion/Arts/Instructional Time/Test Results – will discuss next meeting.