

Choose Kind Committee Notes

January 16, 2019 4:00 - 5:00 Board Room

2018-2019 Superintendent Goals

1. **Build healthy relationships with all students, parents, and staff. Trust is the key ingredient in any successful organization. Trust will be valued and fostered within both the district and community.**
2. **Emphasize school safety. Create the safest learning environments in the state of MN. This includes a focus on both building security and social-emotional health.**
3. **Foster a culture of engagement, where students, parents, and staff love coming to school because they feel heard, valued, and inspired.**

Committee Purpose and Plan -

- a. We are coming together because we are ONE team. This committee will use a positive approach to making our district even better.
- b. **Listen** to parents on how they are feeling our district is doing. Are there areas of improvement needed?
- c. Each meeting, we will highlight one school and an initiative they've committed to along with example(s) of our implementation of a Policy to show what is currently going on in the schools.
- d. As the year goes on, we will reflect and develop any next steps (action plan) after we have went through the list of activities at each building level and all district policies regarding behaviors.

Members: Sue Hedtke (1 at PWE, 1 at MMS), Luke Feierabend (HS Tech, 2 in MS, 1 in LME), Sarah Wiler (2 in HS), Hilary Disch (PWE and MMS), Jason Vaith (2 in PWE), Justin Dittrich Bigley (2 in LME), Eric Olson (Superintendent), Matt Coalwell (MS AP), Mike Carr (HS Principal), Clay Norman (PWE AP), Clay Sawatzke (District Communications), John Weekley (Dist. Sped), Gabe Hackett (LME Principal) Underlined if present this meeting.

Agenda:

1. **Parent Perspective = Any hot button topics, comments, questions, or concerns?**
 - a. No big or pressing questions were brought up. We did discuss the long term vision or plan for this committee. Mr. Coalwell will discuss this with Mr. Olson and report back in February. Additionally, a question was raised regarding how to or what kind of a response is appropriate for parents who want to respond on Social Media. Clay S. is willing to help (his email = clay.sawatzke@monticello.k12.mn.us) with that if people have specific questions as specific issues arise. We also mentioned one of the most helpful responses the school appreciates is for one parent to encourage other frustrated parents on Social Media to simply contact the school to get their questions answered.
 - b. **Policy Review:** [Protection & Privacy of Pupil Records \(State Dept. Guide\)](#)
Policies - we briefly highlighted a few aspects of the data privacy regulations that govern schools and how they relate to specific incidents. Parents obviously are passionate about their children, their safety, and follow through. Sometimes it's difficult to appease everyone (and their requests for information) when school can't share specific details.
2. **Eastview Education Center** - Clay Sawatzke provided some information regarding a school-wide book study (promoting literacy and kindness), a rewards system called ABC Superstars that kids are excited about, having a full time social worker, and EEC's work with 2nd Step programming. It was fun to see all the ways staff can positively work with

students at such a young age and lay the groundwork for being kind and recognizing their feelings. A video he shared is linked [here](#).

- 3. Special Education Programming** - John Weekly presented on Special Education programming and strategies from a K-12 perspective. He acknowledged the work with students is very different at each development age but he shared strategies that staff use that cross grade levels. He noted one of the biggest topics he is involved in relates to conflict and repairing relationships. The topic of 'bullying' consistently comes up and he shared an informational 10 minute video on the making of a bully. See video [here](#). Lastly, Mr. Weekly had to mediate (and show us as an example) an issue that arose at the meeting between Mr. Hackett and Mr. Sawatzke. In the end, with the application of spot on strategies and Mr. Weekly's expertise they two colleagues worked through their conflict. See picture



4. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Planning for next meeting(s) - Building schedule to present summary of activities related to Positive Behaviors, Conflict Resolution, Bullying, Student Climate, etc..
- b. Future Meetings:
 - i. February 20 = **MHS Programming (Mr. Carr)** 4:00 - 5:00 Board Room
 - ii. March 20 =
 - iii. April 17 =
 - iv. May =