

Parent Council Minutes

9/2/09

Whitney Y.R. Yates opened our meeting announcing the Parent Council Officers and by reading our mission statement which reads:

The Davidson Day School Parent Council's sole purpose is to support the education of children at Davidson Day School by:

- a) Developing a positive and welcoming climate for parents that builds enthusiasm, school spirit, and positive relationships among the school, parents and teachers
- b) Working closely with the school to meet its current needs by supporting the school's fundraising and volunteer efforts
- c) Holding social and educational events
- d) Being an advocate for the school beyond the Davidson Day School community

Minutes of Mindfulness

Positive parent comments about our experiences at DDS were shared.

Michael Cerkovnik – Lower/Middle School Division Head

Talked about his current work with the Visiting Artists and Lecture Committee

Bonnie's Corner

Bonnie spoke about a plethora of topics including the following:

- o DDS currently has 400 students enrolled, two of which are international students from Germany and China. The school is focused on building our foreign exchange program and has hired two international faculty members who will begin in October. One will teach Spanish at the Early Childhood/Lower/Middle School level. The other will be focused on building our International Study Abroad Program.
- o Middle School Trip to Nova Scotia has been scheduled for October 9th-17th and will be attended by our 7th and 8th graders.
- o Our Annual Fund Campaign will kick off on September 8th. Our goal is 100% participation at whatever level you and your family feel comfortable.

Academic Enrichment Center

Tutoring and Preschool Reading Programs will now be offered through our AEC. We want DDS to be about education to everyone.

Questions and Comments for Bonnie

The floor was opened and many issues were discussed including:

- A glowing complement was paid to our Afterschool Program and their commitment to getting student homework completed.
- Happy about the added security at the front desk.
- You should be able to access assignments as of Monday through the Parent Portal. Remember you can update your personal information through the portal and the school will automatically be notified.
- Capital Campaign- all new donations will go towards new projects like theater/auditorium (curtains, lighting, etc). In an effort to reenergize the campaign, new committee members have been added.
- The Parent Handbook can be found in two locations: the Back to School link and through the Parent Portal.
- Spirit Rock – Look for information coming soon.

Committee Updates

Panthers Fundraising Committee

Alexa Lupfer

- All money from this fundraiser will be donated to the Annual Fund.
- There is a need for 12 volunteers for every game.
- Our stand is located in section 117 on the main floor across from the Team Store.
- Volunteers will meet at school and ride together in the school van.

Room Parents/Liaisons

Kim Payne

- Room Parents have been through orientation and are currently meeting with teachers. They will be sending out volunteer opportunities shortly.
- Liaisons are two representatives from each grade level who will provide information to parents at the Middle and Upper School levels.

Walking Wednesdays**Laurie Dennis**

- We were informed that the town of Davidson wants to see families walking on visible routes through town to promote childhood health. There will be t-shirts, crossing guards and different themes for each month.
- The walk will start at 7:45am at the Home Economist parking lot/The Egg.
- A parent will be designated to transport backpacks and band instruments to school. Please make sure that your child's backpacks and instruments are clearly labeled with the child's name.
- Any children 3 years of age or younger must be placed in strollers for safety.

Box Tops 4 Education**Sharon Cantey**

- Cut your box tops and send them in with your child. Boxes will be located in classrooms for convenience. You may also visit boxtops4education.com for more information and ways to earn bonus box tops.
- The classroom which collects the most box tops will win one week of free dress-down!

Upper and Middle School Volunteer Committee Opportunities

- Parent Council has been asked to begin work on new committees whose focus will be the monthly socials for both Middle School and Upper School, Prom, and Graduation.
- Once student elections are completed, meetings will be held to determine students' wants and needs. This will help to channel the committees' focus.

Booster Club**Megan Lynch**

- She explained the benefits of joining the Booster Club including free admission to all home games.
- She expressed the need for volunteers at the concession stands.
- You can find more information in the Round About under Athletics.