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**Plymouth River School**

School Council Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2018

2:30 – 3:30pm

In attendance:

Melissa Smith

Michelle Shapiro

Kelly Jones

Katie Rogers

Ed Schreier

Nancy Bucey: not in attendance

AGENDA:

Call to order

Approval of minutes from last meeting

February theme:

* Tied into Black History Month
* PRS Doing One Small Thing
* ASM-Rosa Parks information
* Morning Announcements: Information and/or quotes related to Black History Month and Do One Thing

PRS Family Handbook:

* Melissa will break-up parts of the handbook; each member of the Council will have a section to look over and make suggestions
* Send suggestions to Melissa via email before March 19th

Budget Update:

* Ed gave an overview of the budget
* October 1, 2017 data is the census used for enrollment comparison
* 66 preschool students/Ed described make-up the preschool program
* HPS needs to also consider out of district students
* Past year- 4 students-vocational program/HPS is not part of the South Shore Collaborative
* Town budget/school budget reviewed
* Capital budget numbers reviewed
* Melissa reviewed information from the School Committee related to the budget
* Town’s budget has to be balanced
* The need for 7.1 FTE Regular Education Teachers/3.0 Special Education
* PRS request for Math Tutors (discussed by Melissa)
* Tonight: February 12, 2018-School Committee meeting to review budget
* Balance between funding for general education and special education needs

Poetry Contest:

* Council feels that we could have this content this year
* Review of trifold: specific discussion around Topic and Type of Poems
* Melissa suggested using the themes PRS has focused on from September-February (Be Kind, Being Grateful, etc.)
* Work on something in school and at home
* Grades K-5 (reflect on all of the themes we have had this year)
* Review of Award Categories: all categories still apply
* Types of poems: Council recommended that we will keep the types of poems for K-4; Grade 5 could choose the type of poem they would like to write
* By next meeting, Council will review the tri fold and make changes/suggestions
* Melissa will discuss guidelines with teachers at a staff meeting to be sure that the winners are more even across grade levels

PTO Meeting:

* Jen Greene, school-based results for social emotional information
* March 7th @ 8:30: PRS parent presentation

Preschool Coffee:

* Tuesday, February 27th @ 9:00-10:00: Melissa, Charleen, Robin, Office Para, Kindergarten teacher, Kindergarten parent will be available in the cafeteria for discussions/questions
* Monday, February 26th packets available
* Melissa has already met with 6 parents regarding kindergarten/collecting data related to parent concerns and outcomes from the meetings
* Melissa has sent out emails to community preschools and put a memo in the Weekly Wizard inviting them to the PRS coffee

School Committee:

* Ed discussed School Committee re-election: Cynthia G has decided not to seek re-election/will be turn over
* Ed will keep Council posted on those who are interested in the position/who has turned in papers

**Purpose:** *A school council is a representative, school building-based committee composed of the principal, parents, teachers, community members and, at the secondary level, students, required to be established by each school pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 59C.*[*more info*](http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/advisory/schoolcouncils/part1.html)

**Responsibilities:** To assist principal in:

* Adopting educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards
* Identifying the educational needs of students attending the school
* Reviewing the annual school building budget
* Formulating a school improvement plan

**Next Meeting Dates:***\*Typically the third Monday of the month at 2:30pm*

October 16, November 20, January 8, February 12, March 19, April 9, May 21

**Audience Members:**

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*Reminder:* Post to PRS website and send agenda to the Town Clerk (townclerk@hingham-ma.gov) for posting 48 hours prior to the meeting.