

**PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
P-CCS PARENT COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 17, 2022**

The P-CCS Parent Council of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools held a virtual Regular Meeting via Zoom on Thursday, February 17th, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was recorded and is posted on the district's P-CCS Official YouTube channel:

<https://youtube.com/channel/UCrmvPI7A1k6jPVIrRwQsxoA>.

President Judy Hart called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Board Member(s) Present: Judy Hart, President; Pam Cornell-Allen, Vice President; Antoinette Jackson, Membership Coordinator; Ann-Marie Gerrity, Corresponding Secretary

Board Member(s) Absent: Andrea Schultz, Recording Secretary

Administrators Present:

Ms. Monica Merritt, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Nicholas Brandon, Executive Director of Marketing & Communications

Ms. Carly Rays, Assistant Director of Marketing

School Representatives:

<u>Bentley ES:</u>		<u>Discovery MS:</u>	
<u>Bird ES:</u>		<u>East MS:</u>	
<u>Dodson ES:</u>	Present	<u>Liberty MS:</u>	Present
<u>Eriksson ES:</u>		<u>Pioneer MS:</u>	Present
<u>Farrand ES:</u>	Present	<u>West MS:</u>	Present
<u>Field ES:</u>	Present		
<u>Gallimore ES:</u>	Present	<u>Canton HS:</u>	Present
<u>Hoban ES:</u>		<u>Plymouth HS:</u>	
<u>Hulsing ES:</u>	Present	<u>Salem HS:</u>	Present
<u>Isbister ES:</u>		<u>Starkweather HS:</u>	

<u>Miller ES:</u>			
<u>Smith ES:</u>		<u>Allen Early Learning:</u>	
<u>Tonda ES:</u>		<u>Virtual Academy (K-8):</u>	
<u>Workman ES:</u>	Present	<u>Virtual Academy (HS):</u>	

New Business:

In March, the Parent Council will accept nominations for board positions; all positions are up for election each year. The election officially happens in April.

Dana Jones from the Early Childhood Program wanted us to relate that there will be an Open House on Wednesday, February 23rd, from 6-7:30 pm. Staff from all sites will be available to meet families. Classes will be offered for ages 2, 3, and 4. Classes for 2 year olds (Stay and Play) have priority registration for current families on February 28th. Enrollment for new families opens on March 9th.

Approval of Old Minutes: January meeting minutes will be posted on the district’s website, Parent Council page, for review. Motion to approve by A. Jackson; second by P. Cornell-Allen. Approved 4-0.

Middle School Scheduling - Anthony Ruela, Executive Director of Middle Schools, Data and School Improvement

For 8th graders going into 9th grade, the middle schools partner with the high schools to support the process. There are several opportunities for families to engage and learn about the high schools: curriculum nights, academy nights. The past two years have been challenging getting students on the high school campus due to virtual events being held because of the pandemic. At the middle school building level, students request courses online (Mistar) during the school day, which reduces the frequency of data errors. Some of the newer middle school counselors requested that the high school counselors come onsite to the middle school to assist with the process. Some other middle school counselors are comfortable controlling the process themselves. Pioneer, for example, played the high school orientation video online during Homeroom. The high schools run reports to make sure that all middle schoolers have a complete

schedule, and the high school reaches out to families with incomplete student schedules. The middle schools also get a copy of these reports.

Middle school math teachers recommend math pathways in high school, but ultimately it's up to the student, family, and their high school counselor to decide on the correct path. Middle school principals, administrative teams, and counselors send information to high schools for students who need additional support. Families have the ability to go in and check their student's schedule in Mistar. Some students elect to complete summer courses. In these cases, families are encouraged to reach out to counselors to accept credits toward graduation.

Two weeks prior to the start of school, incoming 9th graders will have Link Crew at their home school for a half day to orient themselves to campus.

For the 5th grade to 6th grade transition, a two-pronged approach is used. In April, there is a 6th grade orientation at each of the middle school buildings for all current 5th graders. Following orientations, the middle school counselors will do building visits to each of the elementary schools for students to meet their counselors. Finally, WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) is two weeks before the start of school in the fall. It's a half-day of team building and getting to know the buildings with WEB leaders (8th grade peer mentors). Additionally, middle school administrators meet with elementary schools administrators to learn each student's strengths and weaknesses.

Electives that middle schoolers can choose are choir, band, or orchestra. The other middle school electives are randomly assigned and are a semester long. The only exception is STEM/Project-based learning; each is only a quarter in length paired with the other to complete the semester.

For TAG elementary students (Gallimore), the process is not much different, except for scheduling of classes for TAG middle school students (East). For advisory and electives, TAG students are mixed with general education students. For TAG specific classes, if there is room, general education students may enroll.

For all students with IEPs, case managers, teachers, and counselors meet to discuss the path forward for each individual student.

Testing for Differentiated Math Placement - Cathie Williams, Curriculum Coordinator of Mathematics, Visual and Performing Arts

Ms. Williams annually reviews all of the changes in curriculum in the state and nationally and relates the information to all of the teachers. Mathematics applications have changed drastically. In the past, proficiency was based on accuracy, fact fluency, and formulas. In addition to those, proficiency is now expanded to include creative application and problem solving. We ensure students are learning the Standards for Student Mathematical Practice. There are differentiated learning opportunities in mathematics at all levels. In elementary school, it is called Math Workshop. In middle school, there are class placement options: standard, advanced, and math support elective. 5th grade students are screened by their NWEA scores and 5th or 6th grade MAS. 7th graders are again screened for advanced math in 8th grade, by reviewing scores in three tests: Winter NWEA, High School Diagnostic, and IOWA Assessment.

5th graders in TAG do take similar assessments, and based on the student's performance, a teacher/counselor may administer another assessment if they have concerns about the student's grasp of the current math progress. Otherwise, the standard progression for 6th grade TAG students would be placement in Accelerated 7/8 math.

High school math placement is based on teacher and counselor recommendation. In order to prepare your students for placement tests, make sure he/she gets a good night's sleep, a good breakfast, and have your student do some self reflection. What are your student's strengths and weaknesses? Math IXL and Khan Academy have great drills for practice.

Middle school families will receive notices of placement in May via email for each family to confirm/accept with the link in the email. Keep in mind that advanced classes often have a higher expectation for homework, so be sure you evaluate how an advanced class will fit in your child's balanced schedule.

Securly/ ACP Technology Program for Families - Mark Salzer, Director of Technology; Andrew Steinman, Associate Director of Technology

P-CCS renewed and expanded their contract with Securly and now have access to Securly Home. There are links to it on the P-CCS website under the Technology Department. Securly is available to families with Take Home (district-issued) devices. An app allows visibility into student searches and access while on their school-issued device. The help information for Securly is quite robust. Families can add additional filtering for their students beyond what P-CCS has built in; there are instructions on the website. The district's filtering policies handle restrictions while on district property, but parents must block additional content at home, if needed.

There is a link to contact your school's technology support team directly on the website, if there are concerns about your child's access or for assistance with at home access. These email addresses are also used as a ticketing system for technology issues to be resolved.

On the Securly Home page on the district's website, there are instructions to monitor activity for non-take home devices through Google account login access. It's not as complete as the app with take home devices, but it is an option for some visibility.

The federal government set aside quite a bit of money to subsidize internet service for families at the beginning of the pandemic. On the Technology Department's website, there are links to Free and Low Cost internet service for eligible families. There are also low cost phone services offered through Lifeline. For families with issues getting internet service, the district has the capability to offer hot spots for those that are eligible.

District Update: Monica Merritt, P-CCS Superintendent of Schools; Nick Brandon, Executive Director of Communications & Marketing

Wayne County Health Department is lifting their mask mandate as of 8:00 am today. With school already in session, Ms. Merritt is acting quickly to get out guidance to our

families on the district's guidelines. The school district is mirroring the trends in the county as far as being post-surge in the pandemic. The county issued a news alert last week regarding its intention to lift its mandates. The district intends to follow the guidance of Wayne County Health department, and it wants to encourage families to instill respect in their children regarding personal choices on masks.

Michigan too is updating its guidance on the pandemic, including removing all masking requirements, as they consider the state to be in a post-surge stage.

The district still encourages daily at home health screening, hand sanitation, and HVAC filters/air purifier changes/maintenance, opening windows when possible. There has not been communication about changes to distancing. Dashboard posting requirements for positive cases are still required, but email notices of cases will move to weekly notices.

The mask mandates on buses are still in place for staff and students. If there is a positive case, and the individual is feeling better, he/she may return to school on Day 6 but must remain masked until Day 10.

This week the district launched a budget feedback form for community members. Emails were sent to families and there is a link on the homepage of the district's website.

Yesterday an updated list of canceled transportation routes was posted February 16th. Affected families have been communicated with directly.

P-CCS is hosting a COVID vaccination clinic on Wednesday, February 23rd from 3:30-5:30 pm in the Canton High School cafeteria. There is a pre-registration link in the news item on the district's website.

88.1 The Park is celebrating its 50th birthday. It was launched on February 14, 1972. It is a fully run student radio station.

A motion to adjourn was made by A. Jackson and seconded by A. Gerrity.

Our next meeting is Friday, March 18, 2022, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the P-CCS Board Office.