

Minutes - Meeting #4

Present:

Kathleen Snook, Chair
Kristin Johnson, Vice Chair
Christine Ayotte-Brennan
Seeta Durvasula
Liz Gray
Kelly McCausland
Nora Murphy
Lindsey Parker
Iolanda Volpe

Absent:

James Lin
Nancy Cowan

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Snook at 4:03pm.

II. Review Discussion of 6/2/2015

Minutes from Meeting #3 held on June 2, 2015 were reviewed. Kathi moved to accept the minutes as amended. Kelly seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Kathi indicated she had spoken with Fr. Fleming about the survey results indicating support for eliminating the Religious Holidays. He appreciated our reaching out and indicated we had been thoughtful in our approach.

III. Review Quantitative Data

A. Kathi provided quantitative data consolidation from surveys. A total of 1062 responses were received from 3805 emails to parents. This included double mailings to households and it was thought most households returned only one survey.

B. Seeta provided data from the CTA internal survey along with pie charts and comments.

C. The Committee discussed the initial findings from these data. There appears to be strong consensus on eliminating Religious Holidays from both parents and teachers. Most parents want to have school end earlier in June, but starting earlier is split. A majority of parents would like to go to one week of spring vacation. Teachers favor keeping two weeks of vacation in the spring semester.

C. Kathi will put these data into table formats for the final report.

IV. Present Qualitative Coding of Data

A. Several members of the Committee each took a question in the survey and independently coded the data. Each presented their findings and the Committee discussed.

B. Start date August-September – Karen

Religious Holidays – Kristin
Vacation Week(s) – Nora
End earlier in June – Nancy
Additional Comments – Kathi

V. Review Initial Charge from School Committee and address requirements.

- A. The Committee went through the charge to plan for the written report and presentation to the School Committee.
- B. Recommendations to the School Committee to include recommending elimination of Religious Holidays. The two- versus one-week vacation in the spring requires more discussion and study.
- C. The Committee has followed the charge and now needs to prepare the report and presentation.

VI. Develop written report and presentation for the School Committee

- A. We will need to meet one more time on September 15 to review the draft and fill in the various text paragraphs.
- B. Kathi will draft report outline and include as much information as possible from the qualitative data and our discussions.
- C. Those who analyzed data should be prepared to draft text for the report at the next meeting.

V. Public Comments.

An observer asked about response rate of the survey. Data were reviewed.

VI. Adjourn

Ms. Snook adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm.

Next Meeting: September 15, 2015 Ripley 4-6pm