Campbell Hall Grandparents’ Committee Minutes

February 13, 2019

Grandparents Attending:

Meeting began 10 am

Mary Kay Patrick spoke thanking the grandparents’ committee for their participation in the last upper school teachers’ luncheon…and providing a wonderful dessert buffet. It was discussed that the weather is an issue where we hold our luncheon and in times that weather is cold and rainy alternatives should be considered: different location? Heaters? Or having a tarp to cover the side behind our buffet. It was recommended to discuss further options in times of bad weather. Also it was discussed about students passing thru lunch area and it was suggested to have signs and ropes to explain that the lunch is for teachers and staff only.

Next luncheon will be May 7th.

Faith reported that the Getty event was a huge success
For next year, the school hopes to have two events that grandparents and grandchildren can participate in similar to this year’s Getty Scavenger Hunt. Perhaps an art event for one of them. In addition, the school offers a grandparents’ day in each division: Kindergarten – 6th grade for elementary families, 7th grade for middle school families, and 12th grade for graduating families.

Faith followed up about campus security which GP Committee member Mel Kosasky first brought up in the January meeting:

According to the Director of Operations and CFO, we actually have six guards patrolling the campus at all times…one always at the front gate and another at the upper school entrance. The other four are patrolling campus especially near the high traffic areas.

Earlier this school year, after a security audit was conducted by a professional group to assess CH’s security, the perimeter fence’s height was increased per their suggestion. The audit also covered the pros and cons of having armed guards but the consultant stressed the decision is different for each school; there is no right or wrong answer because each school environment and climate are so different. Grandparents shared their thoughts about armed guards and preserving the now excellent emotional school climate. The school is still deciding if they want to bring an armed guard on campus. IF that was ever going to happen, it will ONLY ever be a guard that has been w/ CH for a long time who is very familiar with all our students and faculty.
Uniforms and stun guns were also mentioned by grandparents. The question came up is it visually important to see there are guards?

There are drills every month for either national disasters or real-life scenarios. Was discussed about knobs locking from the outside on classrooms...Saul Freedman voiced that he would like uniformed guards to be seen on campus and no guns. He is a retired veteran policeman...Faith will continue to communicate with the Director of Operations and CFO about our concerns and suggestions.

Discussion of a possible left hand turn arrow at main entrance of school. Faith said it has been looked into several years ago and is very expensive due to a need of re-routing pipes at the campus’ main entrance...Julian, the head of school, wants to focus on mindfulness and student well-being regrading safety from within our school...Faith asked for patience while school is trying to navigate what is best for the maximum security we are hoping for...

Elementary Teacher’s luncheon is Wednesday March 20. Chairperson is Sandra Reiner...there was a discussion of purchasing catered food or personally made...at a private meeting it was decided to purchase the main menu and bring in personal desserts. Sign up sheet went around for volunteers to help. Theme will be 75th Diamond Jubilee. Volunteers to come at 10 to 10:30 lunch begins at 11:15...

Cookie Day Tuesday, April 23 for upper school. Jo Schiff is head of this...cookies will be chocolate chip, sugar, oatmeal from Bevaris and a nut free table of cookies

Elementary Grandparents Day is Friday, March 22...

GP Committee member Barbara Zax facilitates our GP Support Group where discussions about relationships with children and grandchildren are explored...next meeting will be at Sharyn & Walter Gertz’s residence on Wednesday, April 24. All discussions are confidential

Bagpipers Ball (May 3rd) discussions on the basket we will give for auction...will talk about what we want to donate in basket at next meeting

Next GP Committee meeting is Wednesday, April 17th

It was discussed if we want to change the time we meet ...Voted for 11 am instead of 10 am...Faith will see if we can have the boardroom at 11 am for next school year and will let us know

Meeting ended 11 am

Minutes by Ilene Sraberg