

# Parent Advisory Committee Minutes



September 15, 2015

**I. Members Present:** Jill Hancock, Jenn Foote, Kara O'Leary, Tricia Garrison, Ellen Young, Teresa Merrifield, Kelly Avery, Shannon Bartlett, Jacqui McGettigan

**II. Calendar review and discussion of activities lead by Mrs. Bartlett:**

- September 24<sup>th</sup>: Tech Team Mtg
- September 25<sup>th</sup>: Primary Field Trip (Windy Ridge Apple Orchard)
- October 1<sup>st</sup>: Staff Mtg
- October 5<sup>th</sup>: Fire Prevention Week
- October 6<sup>th</sup>: Picture Day
  - Admin Team Mtg
  - Policy Mtg (5:30pm)
  - Ashland School Board (6:30pm)
- October 7<sup>th</sup>: Middle Tier Mtg (T2 Prep)
- October 9<sup>th</sup>: SAU Dance @ AES (6:30pm-9:30pm)
- October 12<sup>th</sup>: Columbus Day—No school!
- October 16<sup>th</sup>: End of Term 1
- October 19<sup>th</sup>: Term 2 begins
- October 20<sup>th</sup>: Admin Team Mtg
- October 23<sup>rd</sup>: Term 1 Learning Summaries—go home
- October 28<sup>th</sup>: Fall Sports Awards (Middle)
- October 30<sup>th</sup>: Halloween Parade (1pm)

**III. Mrs. Bartlett updated members on several items:**

- Facilities signage: Directory, Parking Lot Banners, PM Pick Up
- Street signage: School of Excellence 2007 & 2015-across from Dunkin Donuts, Depot Street and Rte. 3
- Playground: Kid Cushion, borders and fence caps
- Playground project—Student Council's goal this year
- Fire Inspection completed in August

- Staff B-O-Y Training: CPI, Autism, 504 & IEP Refresher
- Learning Summary Policy change

*Mrs. Bartlett explained that, based on the recommendation of the school board, a fourth assessment category will be added to the learning summary. Advanced: the learner demonstrates a complete and thorough understanding of the content and skills within this learning outcome. The revised policy may be discussed at the next school board meeting, October 6.*

IV. Mrs. Bartlett updated members on opening day(s) activities.

a. Middle Tier Orientation/A-Quest & Whitten Woods Hike

*As a part of their orientation activities, Middle Tier students participated in the A-Quest and Whitten Woods Hike. The A-Quest was a historical scavenger hunt throughout the town of Ashland. Students had to answer specific questions about several locations around town including the Toy Museum and Memorial Park. In the afternoon they hiked the Whitten Woods trail. Student feedback was very positive and several students indicated that they enjoyed learning more about their community.*

b. Fall Open House

c. Info tables at Open House: Banking Program, Girl Scouts, Park & Rec After School Program, Café Services, NWEA/SBAC Reporting, ONE-CALL & Parent contact list updates, Winter Rec Program

V. Plans for PAC/PTO

*Mrs. Avery opened the discussion on how to make the PAC a vehicle for more parent driven activities with the following questions, "What is your feeling about the purpose of this group/meeting?" and "How can we get more parents involved?" She encouraged the group to define a purpose and some goals for the year. The group agreed that working towards a particular goal, such as upgrading the playground equipment, would give the group a specific purpose and could increase membership. Mrs. Bartlett is going to send out a survey to parents regarding interest and potential meeting times/days.*

VI. Other?

*Other discussion included athletic opportunities for students in grades 5 & 6 and testing schedules.*