

PAC Meeting 1/18/17

Present: Chris Corrigan, Elaine Edge, Irene McDonnell, Dana Thompkins, Gayle Shimoun, Betsy Bacot-Aigner, Karen Wexler, Kristina Folkart, Dorit Kransdorf, Alyson McCauley, Amy Jones, Shannon Yu, Lisa Laurino, Rebecca Cuadros, YongYoung Shen

Tutorial Center Update: The officials think the problem is an underground pipe. It is being opened up today. They are hoping that they only have to open a small area, but they will have to play it by ear. The tutorial center should be open in a week or so.

Mini-grant: It is a great program and the faculty appreciates the mini-grant items. The next deadline for applications is 1/27/17.

PARCC: Testing will take place the last week in March, first Monday in April (3/27 - 3/31 & 4/3). The school will be open all 6 days of the PARCC testing. The State is threatening to hold back federal money if too many people opt out. All Algebra I students must take the Algebra I exam in order for any of the other tests (SAT, ACT, PSAT) to count for graduation. 9th graders must also take the ELA section of the PARCC test. They do not have to have a passing score for either test.

Attendance: Delayed openings, shortened periods.

The class of 2021: Must have a **Passing** score on the PARCC Algebra I and ELA 10 to use the alternate tests for graduation.

Juniors and Seniors get 3 days for college visits, which are excused.

Mr. Howlett will ask teachers to be reasonable with the amount of homework given during PARCC.

The Senior Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, 3/29 - 8:30. This is mandatory for Seniors.

The PARCC tests should last until 10. The first classes begin at 10:05.

There will be two bus runs: one regular and one delayed opening schedule. If students are not taking the test, they are encouraged to take the delayed bussing. Students who come in early will be housed in the cafeteria.

If your student is not coming in at all, you must call the attendance office. If your student is not taking the PARCC, you do not need to call or send in a note regarding the test.

Lockers and Backpacks: Parents and students should go through backpacks and clean things out. The students like to keep everything with them. Every student has a locker and if they are having issues, they should contact the grade-level Assistant Principal and they will help them come up with a plan.

Freshmen lockers are in the Freshmen area.

The school will not be taking out lockers: A lot of money would be necessary to take out the lockers and redo the hallways.

A lot of schools don't allow students to go to their lockers during the day, only during certain times.

Suggestion: Asking the students who wants a locker and only giving a locker to those who want one.

There are two pot holes on school driveway. Mr. Howlett will look at it today.

MLK Day: Is there any way to recognize the day while the students are in school, perhaps an assembly or a Day of Service? We are the only school in the state who doesn't have off. Mr. Howlett does a recognition announcement. The social studies classes

The day is an instructional day. Because the teachers are being "graded" on their students' performances, taking another instructional day away would be difficult. This is especially important for the AP classes. Mr. Howlett will talk to Kristin Fox about doing something substantial for the day during social studies. People should contact the Board of Education regarding the calendar if they feel strongly about the students having that day off. The school calendars are posted until 2020.

Junior Prom: Dorit mentioned next year's Jr. Prom date and asked that we inform parents early regarding the date. Amy - DynaCal is in bad shape. It is very crowded with all of the sports practices. Items are duplicated. Amy suggested having a separate filter for just Ridge Athletics. Gayle suggested having a calendar page with all events so parents can check.

Basketball Games attendance is down. Breath-a-lizers are being used at all sports games.

Mr. Howlett has a Twitter account which informs people about issues with busses but he also tweets out other Ridge information.