**WREC Parent Council Minutes**

**February 19, 2020**

**Members present:**  Dr. Corbett Babb, Kathleen Schippers, Kim Voithofer, Becky Campbell, Amy Nesko, Alyssa Carlino, Steph Herbein, Debbie Gentry

**Mid-Year Reflection/Update**

Dr. Babb spoke with the parents regarding reaching the end of the first semester and beginning the second. This subject has been addressed with students during morning homeroom time in the gym and during individual homeroom meeting times. Students have been asked to reflect on “what’s gone well so far and what needs to improve over the second half of the year.” Both 5th and 6th grade staffs have done “deep dives” into student performance data including the recently completed mid-year benchmarks. They have used this information to plan instruction for the third quarter. A specific emphasis with sixth-graders s getting them ready to be seventh-graders next year.

**School Safety/Security Update/Current Events**

The major topic of discussion concerned the recent incident that involved a senior high student posting a picture of a gun on Facebook, followed by numerous others who then added comments to that picture on Facebook and other social media venues. This resulted in the district responding with an email to JSHS parents the night of that incident and then an additional email sent out to all district parents the following morning. Discussion centered around whether the response from the district was enough and how many students stayed home from school the following day.

**Transitioning 6th Graders to 7th Grade**

Dr. Babb spoke about the transition activities planned for 6th graders getting ready to move to 7th grade, as well as relating specific points of emphasis that the 6th grade team is stressing with this year’s 6th graders – homework completion, academic “grit”, and working up to your potential.

**Upcoming PSSA Testing Windows**

PSSA tests are scheduled for the weeks of April 21-23 (English/Language Arts) and April 28-29 (Math). All teachers have been involved in setting third quarter student learning goals focused on what students need to know by the time PSSAs occur. Quarterly benchmark results have been utilized to inform instruction over this critical time of the year. A great deal of preparation will occur over the month of March leading into the April testing.

**6TH Grade Camp Update**

The sixth-grade outdoor education experience at Camp Conrad Weiser will occur May 21-23 this year. The camp informational letter will be going out to parents during the month of March.

**School Climate Survey**

Dr. Babb shared a copy of the School Climate Survey that the district is considering administering this year to grades 3-8. The survey was created by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. WREC students would take the survey during their guidance specials classes. The consensus from parent council members was that this survey was much better suited for 5th and 6th graders than a previous survey administered to students this year and would provide valuable information regarding school climate issues.

**The next WREC Parent Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 6th, 2020.**