



The Cinema School

Parent Association

Parent Association Meeting Minutes 4/18/2015

Executive Members Present:

President: Joanne Grell, Treasurer: Vivian Burrus, Secretary: Ana Pacheco

Meeting called to order at 11:30 am. Full Executive Board present

Remarks by Joanne Grell:

May 16th: Student movie night for 9th.

June 13th The PA wants to plan a Zumba night yet we need help in acquiring an instructor along with a PA meeting.

Presentation by Rani Pendharkar, Assistant Principal:

- The Cinema Schools plan for a rigorous and college ready curriculum.
- Ms. Warner is working on a core curriculum. She is requesting each of the department leaders, English Math, Science and Film in rolling out a sustainable core curriculum and that the departments are on the same page.
- Each course has to have an overarching essential question. An essential question is, “an enduring understanding, what is it that students are learning, how will students transfer the knowledge into the outside world?”
- An example of an overarching essential question: In trigonometry the term of “functions” can be applied in a real life situation to architecture.
- Ms. Pendharkar and Ms. Singh went to a Professional Development seminar for English. The seminar was provided by the office of curriculum and instruction where the City is rolling out their choice of core curriculum. They are taking the city’s suggested curriculum into consideration but the English department has not decided whether to take it as is or have a more blended model.
- The different departments are taking into consideration DOE endorsed curriculum and writing their own curriculums, the process is still in the exploration stage.
- In 2014-2015 The Cinema School is offering AP Literature in 12th grade. The goal is to increase AP courses with certain criteria.
- The administration is also aware that electives need to be offered in Science, Social Studies and ELA in senior year (12th grade).

Parent Comments:

- Obtaining College Credit for Film courses taken at the Cinema School. The possibility of their being a collaboration with a college. Where there is a college level instructor that is connected to The Cinema School so that students regular film classes that are taken as part of their regular curriculum can then be certified and accepted as college credit. The DOE has rules and regulations on how those relationships need to be established and what the curriculum should be.
- Students are leaving The Cinema School with skills that are equal to what students are doing in college.
- Are the SAT prep classes that the students are attending any good, are the programs helping students and how many students are going? Parent wants to make sure that going forward that SAT prep continues.
- Volunteering is important for our students because colleges look at volunteering favorably.
- Jupiter grades needs to be tighten up so that all parents can be contacted.
- Parent suggestion of a fund raiser: selling cute towels, beach towels and mugs.

Next PA meeting 5/16/2015

Meeting adjourned

