

Chaparral Complex meeting, 4/26/11 at Chaparral HS

Present:

Cherokee – Walter Chantler, Principal and Allison Klotnia, APT President; Sequoia – Rose Fritzke, PTO President; Copper Ridge – Sheila Burnham, Principal, Miesje Corbo & Mary Jo Cramer, PTO Co-Presidents; Cocopah – Susan Thomas, Principal; Chaparral HS – Gayle Holland, Principal, Ginger Walker & Mary Kim Brown, CHAPTS;

Not Present:

Cocopah- Linda Fisher, APT President; Cochise – Sarah Stammegna, Principal and Allison Barkley, APT President; Sequoia - Anne Orlando, Principal.

Meeting started at 10:05am

Meeting began with everyone sharing celebrations and challenges at their schools:

Copper Ridge, Cherokee, Chaparral group leaders discussed their fundraising events.

- Fundraisers were successful, with parent participation and donations.
- Challenges for schools hosting a fundraising event is how to get the message to parents about the concerns with the budget & how to get parents signing up to attend the event sooner than at the last minute.
- Chaparral hosted a non-event fundraiser. Went really well. Chaparral has many groups & boosters, and a challenge they have is how to avoid competing w/each other for monetary donations. CHAPTS looking into this.
- Ideas for schools that are hosting a fundraiser and are having some parent participation challenges:
 - o Go to teachers & explain to them about what's in danger of not being funded if the fundraiser is not successful. Ask for their help.
 - o Speak to teachers and ask them to help sell the fundraiser
 - o Place a sticker on the kids t-shirts with a fundraiser message on it (Cherokee). Send them home with it.
 - o Move the fundraiser from the month of April. Better months are Feb & March
 - o Accept walk-ins at the event
- Sequoia celebrated the news about the hiring of their new principal for 2011-2012 year.
- Some Parent Groups were having difficulty finding volunteers to fill in key positions on their board.

Principals shared celebrations and challenges at their schools:

- Chaparral had 31 kids that qualified for National Merit! CHAPTS spent 24k for security cameras that were needed & contributed 15k for staff development.
- Cocopah: Celebrate Cocopah was 1st week on March and was very successful! Battle of the Books is ongoing & so far Cocopah is the reigning champion. Disney trip coming up. Some challenges are “staying ahead of game.” A lot going on before year is over. Schedules for next year still being worked on.
- Cherokee: currently reviewing bylaws for Site Council.
- Copper Ridge: AIMS week went well (banners, posters, teachers shared testing tips).

Budget Cuts: (being presented to Gov. Board):

- Not sure what will be approved. Principals expressed concerns about sharing Assistant Principals. When teachers were surveyed by SCA, they said if any cuts, it should be in AP levels. Again, not sure what to expect in May.
- Questions about new Tax Credit laws: how does it affect the schools and the PTOs? Asked for input and guidance from SPC (SPC was made aware of this and they will do meeting about this during the school year. Go to scottsdaleparentcouncil.org for when it will be).

Comments about our Complex meeting and recommendations for next year:

- Not have meeting during lunch periods. Have meetings either earlier or later in the day.
- Try to get Parent Group Leaders together before the calendar of events is put together, so that calendars can be synchronized (i.e.: fundraisers and socials) Will avoid events overlapping. Good to know what others are doing. Maybe meet over the summer (most PTOs had already planned their next calendar year by the time this meeting was held.)
- Meeting 1/quarter is fine.
- 1 hour meeting is good.
- Learning community meetings strengthen these relationships.
- It was good to get to know everyone!

Meeting adjourned 11:10am.

Thank you to everyone for attending the meetings!