

Salemwood School Council Meeting  
November 13, 2018, 7 AM

Present:

Van Huynh, Linsey Wyman, Alejandra Gamiz, Jennifer Hedrington, Amanda Maffeo, Alan Rodriguez, Christina Terranova

- Vision for Salemwood: Discussed desire for a change to the Salemwood Mission and vision statements. The thought is that perhaps they are too broad/don't reflect who we are/don't speak to the students in clear, understandable ways? A Google document will be shared for anyone who wants input into how the mission and vision statements should read (it is a district-wide initiative). Also Alan mentioned that maybe there could be one statement instead of a vision and mission for clarity's sake?
  
- MCAS data for Salemwood
  - Since Grade 4's results were far above district and state averages for both ELA and Math, many teachers throughout district are seeking to observe Grade 4 to see what they're doing that works.
  - Discussion of how the newcomer scores are counted in Salemwood data which affects scores. Attendance also affects scores and many families take extended time away from school to visit their home countries at Salemwood since we are the SEI 1 school in the district.
  - ELA has been a district-wide focus for some time, and now the focus has moved on to Math, there are questions about what to do about science.
  - The district is looking to revamp science curriculum or align it better.
  - Grades 7 & 8 have guidance counselors who meet individually with students to discuss results, perhaps this would also work with grades 3-6 too?
  - Some discussion about potential vacation MCAS prep sessions. Principal Van will check into this.
  - Question of how to get parents involved in understanding their students' MCAS results.
  - Kathy Sullivan and Christina Terranova are working on DESE MCAS committees for 2-year appointments beginning in January.
  - Thinking of offering a contest for Best MCAS Rap to be shared with school to promote excitement for upcoming testing (calling Mr. Bowdridge).
  - Finally, WWC highlighters will be distributed soon. Discussion of how they would be helpful for MCAS to use on draft paper before transferring work to computer for test, since not all the colors are available on the actual test.
  
- Upcoming Salemwood events:
  - *PTO Candy Bingo* taking place Thursday, Nov. 15th from 6-7:30 PM in lower school cafe

- *15th Annual Holiday Parade* is on 11/24. \$350 prize from city for best float. Families and students are invited to help decorate. Theme is thanks to Veterans for 100th commemoration of the end of WWII.
- *Book Fair* is being held from Monday, 11/26-Friday 11/30. Will be open to shoppers on Parent/Teacher night (Thursday, 11/29). Proceeds from book sales help the school! Poster and book raffles to be given out to lucky winners.
- *Parent/Guardian Teacher Conferences*: Thursday 11/29 from 6-7:30 PM. Report cards for Quarter 1 go home on Tuesday, Nov. 20th.