School Board Minutes April 10, 2018

Minutes by Kimberly McGlinchey

1. **Public Comment – no public comment**
2. **Special Presentation- Portsmouth Middle School – Principal Phil Davis**
   1. **Successes**
      1. STEM Project Lead the Way
      2. Sound upgrades in classrooms
      3. Habits of work (21st Century Skills) look at 3 categories: works collaboratively, works independently, and contributes to classroom community.
      4. Maker Space Grant from the Clipper Foundation – Kristen Sweeny
         1. The space will be available and portable
      5. PTA is up and running and giving financial support
      6. New scholarship program is helping fund trips
      7. Cut the cost of the trip to Washington by ½ by taking one day off of trip and using Jump Street Tours which sets up a payment plan and budget
   2. Academically they are tracking low grades and have questions on the low grades and their association with disengagement.
   3. **Challenges**
      1. Scheduling a new “success block”
      2. Time shift – no one staying after school
      3. Funding needs: world language teacher, math interventionist, and reading specialist
      4. Increasing midyear enrollment complicated scheduling
   4. Wondering about mandating involvement with extracurricular activities? How homework is effecting grades? Is a zero the right score?
   5. PLC goals are around the opportunity gap- World languages is an issue- if you don’t enroll in the beginning you cannot get caught up to join as a 7th or 8th grader. No entry point until high school after 6th grade.
   6. BOARD COMMENTS: Tara Kennedy loved habits of minds and wondered about training for the maker space. Gary Epler wondered if the grading and completion was connected to the change in after school work due to schedule changes. Scott focused on the grade drop due to zeros and to instead bring that “incompletion” grade over to the habits of mind rubric. Kristen Jeffrey commented that we need more rigor and that there are way too many students on honor roll -75%. Patrick Ellis reflected on the schedule challenges and the need for a world language teacher.
3. **Superintendent Report**
   1. School Board meeting dates for 2018-2019
   2. Google Privacy Act with student data
   3. Teacher Salary Schedule 2018-2019
   4. Letter of resignation for Susan Avis
   5. Leave of absence for Kate Brunelle and Karen Dowling
4. **Old Business? None**
5. **New Business**
   1. Policy work- equity policy and relations with authorities and school resource officers
   2. Policy – Bullying language still working on.
   3. Little Theater at High School is having its name changed to the Nichinan Theater – vote was approved to change the name.