Parent Meeting Minutes

18 April 2019 / 3:45 PM / HIGHLAND HOUSE

Agenda

Welcome

Items open for discussion

- Nature Immersion Updates
 - Discussed Ms. Natalia moving on and Ms. Bridget, Ms. Rachel and Ms. Sydney staying/joining the NI classroom.
- Parent/School Family Code of Conduct

Discussion of experience with a recently departed school family and asked if the parent community would be willing to help create a parent/family code of conduct. Parents attending agreed that would be a good exercise. Maybe have a day/time where they brainstorm together about the parent community they wish to see? Looks like, sounds like, feels like (just like we do with students) to create their own expectations/agreements/commitments

Parents also suggested expanding family training, especially in Concious Discipline. Britty shared that at her old lab school, there were required family workshops. That might be a good idea for next school year.

- Next semester outlook
 - Sex education

We talked about the fact that this is something that will be included in next semester's schedule for the uppermost ability group (generally ages 12 and up). We discussed how staff has been researching best practices (trusted adults with training or curriculum). We discussed keeping families informed of the curriculum/scope and sequence and that parents would/should have the opportunity to opt out if desired. Olive's mom referred us to Broward County Schools for a good curriculum. Camila and others suggested age-appropriate sexual related education for our kids even younger than 12. Margaret gave us the contact info for a program that she knows brings sex ed for kids on the spectrum into schools.

- Next School Year
 - Location updates (church, 1851)

- Discussion of church's recent requirements to continue use of space, and Carrie updated us on the ways we can help raise money to buy 1851 and the timeline for doing so
- Educator updates
 - Amanda Rose Newton
 - Dave Chesny
 - Bridget Bachman
 - Natalia Harmon
 - Katie Vieira

What's Good?

- Safety Updates
 - Staff CPR training
 - AED
 - April Safety Drills
- Fundraising efforts 1861 highland
 - Mr. Car Wash
 - Surfin Turtle
 - Facebook
 - Parent pledges
 - School portraits

What's Hood?

Parents expressed that they liked weekly recaps but the suggestion was made to make them WEEKLY recaps in upper school instead of DAILY (a paragraph and some photos for each course each week). This would make it less work for educators and more readable for parents.