Vestal District Council

Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2023 | 7:00 PM | Meeting location : Vestal Middle School

President	Amy MacDonald
Vice President	Open
Treasurer	Kate Chura-Lynch
Secretary	Marla French

Attendees: Amy MacDonald, Marla French, Patrick Clarke, Sue Wendell, Sheri Esteban-Elie, Katie Balkaya, Kate Chura-Lunch, Reggi Felice, & Mark Browning

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:07 PM

Reggi's Report

- Thank you for your continued support of our Vestal community following a successful vote on 12/14 granting approval for our next Capital Improvement Project!
- The Ride 360 app is up and running for the Transportation Dept.
- Calendar correction: Winterguard Home Show is moved to 5p.m., Saturday, February 4, in the Vestal HS gym.
- Following the lockouts in December, any decision we make (ie: school closing, lock down, early dismissal) is based on factual information. We do not rely on social media for our information.

Patrick's Report

- The new Director of Instruction is Andrew Blaine. He was a former English teacher in Vestal
- There will be January Regents for some HS students, and VMS will have computer-based ELA testing. Computer simulations do not count and no data is recorded
- There is an initiative to help parents/caregivers to use technology. We're looking at digital technology, social media, digital citizenship and how it affects social/emotional health. Revisiting the film, *Like*, to show to older students and the community. In 2023, we will have a series of events that build upon each other and have guest speakers.
- Looking for parents to sit in on a task force.

Board of Education

- It's budget season. Over the last six years, we've gone to the ceilings of caps or way below. We don't know our cap yet. We're looking at a wish list to grow staffing.
- VMS gym floor was damaged over the break (water on the floor) and needs repairs. We're currently working with the insurance company.

African Road Elementary

- We had a celebration for the end of "One School, One Book with a petting zoo.
- We had a Lights tour, met, and sang songs and were given maps for houses participating.
- Cookie plates were done for staff in December.
- The "Taste of ARE" event will be on January 31.

Clayton Avenue Elementary (Not present)

Glenwood Road Elementary (Not present)

Tioga Hills Elementary (Not present)

Vestal Hills Elementary

- We had a Story Hour last weekend.
- We will be bringing back Toddlers' Night Out in March 2023.
- Bingo Night mid-week was a success!
- Yearbook Committee is having a contest for students to submit cover designs.
- Winter Bash & Cultural Collage are being held in February.

Vestal Middle School

- We recently received a check for $2,000 from Upstate Shredding Weitsman Recycling for our Bear Necessities program.

Vestal High School

- Several student National Letter of Intent signings were held recently for college sports.
- The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be on April 5, 2023.
- Please look for postings each month for the All-Nighter fundraisers. This year's theme is, "Dancing Through the Decades."
- We had our largest-ever KB dance.
- Our students and school community came together to support each other with the death of one of our students. There was an amazing memorial. Thank you to families who donated needed supplies.

President's Report

- Friday, March 3, 2023, is Trivia Night in the VMS Cafeteria. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and trivia starts at 7 p.m. The cost is $15/pp. This event is connected to Vestal's Bicentennial to fund VDC scholarships. Teams can be up to 10 members. Registration forms will be on the Vestal website.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:32 PM.

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE

7 PM, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!