Community Relations Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, December 4, 2009, 10:00AM

Attending: Board Members – Collins, Garrity, Harnett and Liu; Administrators – Duncan and Currie.

- 1. Census: Chiung-Yin will report on the census in January.
- 2. H1N1 Update: We have been advised that vaccine is now available for Holmdel students, both public and private. Vaccine administration dates are being established, one on a weekday and one on a Saturday. Young children will need two doses for complete protection. Our in-district student attendance levels have returned to normal. Staff attendance has remained normal.
- 3. Publicity for World Language Laboratory fundraising from My9/Fox News and Inhouse (HHS) TV production: Our students and staff are working together with HFEE leadership to create a PR piece about the HFEE's gift of a world language lab, to inform the community and encourage donations.
- **4. State of the District:** We began discussing what committee chairmen should cover in their State of the District presentations. The topics include accomplishments, challenges, emerging issues, and issues surfaced by community members. The presentations should outline our aspirations, and also highlight non-taxpayer funding sources. The committee plans to develop topics lists for committee chairs by January, and also offer feedback on their first drafts.

Our conversation evolved into an extended discussion of the degree to which parents pay for advance tutoring or summer courses for their children, even those as young as six years old. This has generated parental expense and frustration, especially in the current economic climate. CR committee recommends creating a central listing on our website of free resources parents can access to reinforce their students' learning and surplant outside private tutoring. The Community Relations committee will continue to support the Curriculum & Instruction committee in areas of differentiation and data analysis. Our Humanities and Math/Science supervisors will be presenting their data-based assessment of grade level strengths and weaknesses to Administrative Council, and will share a summary of their findings with the Board.

5. Committee Homework: Please come to the January meeting with a list of the topics you believe committee chairs should cover in their State of the District presentations. Committees include B&F, B&G, C&I and Special Services, so please give thought to both general and committee-specific topics.

Next Meeting: Friday, January 8, 2010 at 10AM, Central Office

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Garrity