



Notes from Coffee w/Admin on Monday 1/12/15: Mr. Zamiar & Mrs. Hershiser were in attendance.

Parents expressed thanks to Mrs. Jeffery for offering girls' basketball try-outs a second time. Further discussion was had concerning interscholastic sports opportunities for girls at PCCS, and a request was made to dig deeper into the possibility of offering girls' volleyball in the fall.

Questions were asked about the results of the meetings the administration has been having with PCCS feeder high schools. The data on math wasn't back yet, but Mr. Z said the goal for Spanish is to have PCCS students be able to start high school entering 2nd year of Honors Spanish. For placement, Mr. Z said Warren bases most of their student placement on the 8th grade fall NWEA exams while Grayslake/Libertyville/Mundelein high schools rely more on teacher recommendations and placement tests.

A parent wanted to know what the decision process was behind shifting the 7th and 8th grade to rotating between teachers who each focus on a core subject, the response from Mr. Z and Ms. Naomi was that: 1) there was an interest in creating more of a traditional "middle school" experience and 2) when teachers are able to focus on a specialized subject area they can teach to their strengths and create a better learning experience. A follow up question asked if the administration would consider doing the same at the 5/6 level and the answer was that they need to allow more time to pass to evaluate the effectiveness of this change at the 7/8 grade level first.

Discussion turned to WIN time and parents expressed concern that the program was not well organized, clearly communicated, or effective. The administration agreed to look at the program and see how it can be made better.

A request was made AGAIN for better communication from teachers concerning poor test grades and missing assignments. Again parents wondered if there was a policy in place for when teacher contact needs to be made after a failing test/project grade and after a set number of missing assignments. If such a policy exists, it needs to be followed consistently, and if there is not a policy in place, many parents voiced a desire to create one ASAP.

The next Coffee w/ Admin will be Monday, February 9th from 2-3 pm (before afternoon carpool). Mr. Smith will be in attendance.