**WREC Parent Council Agenda/Minutes**

**December 6, 2017**

**Members Present:** Dr. Corbett Babb, Joanne Weller, Kathy Herr, Kim Voithofer, Tim Diehl, Becky Campbell, Jen Beane

**Academic Achievement Update/PSSA Results/SPP Score**

* Dr. Babb informed the Council that WREC had achieved a School Performance Profile score of 84.1 for the 2016-17 school year. This was the highest among all middle schools in Berks County for the second year in a row. At the building level, PSSA ELA results were 82.3% advanced/proficient. PSSA Math results were 58.8% advanced/proficient. In comparison with math scores across Pennsylvania, our math results continue to be much higher than the average proficiency rate. Increasing overall math proficiency does continue to be a strong point of emphasis for 2017-18.

**Instructional Technology Initiative**

* The 1:1 student iPad rollout has continued to go well. All classroom teachers are effectively integrating iPads into their instruction. The Council discussed the many positives associated with the effective use of this resource. The conversation also included discussion about having a “healthy balance” of instructional technology and traditional instructional resources/strategies which match the developmental level of middle school students.

**STEAM Initiative**

* Dr. Babb informed the group that WREC had developed a STEAM specials class and rolled it out this school year. All students participate in “Innovations” class once every six days as part of their specials rotation. This inquiry-based class is being taught by Mrs. Shana Matz and takes the place of the computers class. This move is part of the K-12 STEAM initiative and fits in the overall district STEAM curriculum being developed.
* WREC teachers, Dr. Babb, and district administrators have worked together to renovate the old computer lab to become the new “Innovations Lab”. New classroom furniture and cabinetry will arrive soon. This will also include the WREC library, which will also be receiving new tables and chairs. Old furniture will be reassigned to other areas of the school district.
* Teachers and students now have access to STEAM instructional resources from the Innovations lab and these are being effectively utilized by teachers in their subject areas to create inquiry-based lessons.

**6th Grade Camp Fundraising**

* WREC began its coupon book fundraising campaign before Thanksgiving and it will continue up until Friday, December 8th. Monies raised go towards funding the annual 6th Grade Camp Conrad Weiser trip. Dr. Babb also informed the Council that we will continue the practice of securing grants and raising monies through soliciting donations, the 6th Grade Wax Museum event, and having students pay a fee to attend the three-day camp.

**School Safety/Security Concerns**

* No issues/concerns were raised at this time.

**PTA/Community Update**

* Becky Campbell reminded the group that the upcoming PTA Holiday Shoppe will take place on Saturday, December 9th, from 9-12. She also brought up the issue of possibly coordinating with WREC to provide additional recess equipment/resources. Dr. Babb suggested that we include the WREC Student Council in coming up with a list of those things that may add to the quality of recess time at WREC.

The next WREC Parent Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.