

Parents in attendance

Kathy Rago	Belinda Lumsden
Raichee Bryson	Jodi Glines
Doreen Thibault	Shannon Hill
Ami Davidson	Jane Cote

This will be a monthly meeting to discuss what goes on at CCA, we will also be discussing how we can improve the school environment. We strive to meet every child's needs and sometimes we need your help to accomplish that.

Q: Charter vs. Traditional and what that means for CCA. Parent stated that they know we get less than the traditional public school and they wanted to know how we accomplished that while doing so much.

A: We look for the things no one else seems to want- Used furniture, old student desks, Free or close to free Craigslist items, ect. We have spent less than \$4,000.00 on furnishings because we are thrifty. Our money goes into curriculum and staff. Yes, we get less than half of what the traditional public schools get per pupil and NO local tax money. Long story short in most cases we are doing the same or better educationally with less.

Q: Title 1?

A: Surveys went home with your students today that ask about general education for your children. It is imperative that these come back, they are due on Friday.

Discussion was held on what Title 1 is (program to assist children who need help in math and reading). Mrs. Vogt is back to assist with the implementation of our Title 1 program. It was also mentioned that if anyone needs assistance with special education advocacy for their child(ren) Mrs. Rago is practiced in this arena and would gladly assist.

Q: How are we (CCA) going to prepare our children for life after high school? Including but not limited to- Life after high school and what that looks like? Budgeting, Goals, what life experiences can we prepare them fo

A: Some children interact with budgeting, money math already thru the Brewing Independence program where they must make deposits and withdrawals from the "Bank" (Mrs. Bev) using actual banking slips and practices. Most children will encounter this thru math class.

Q: Where are we at with the Thrift Shoppe?

A: We are currently waiting for the NH department of Labor to get back to us on what age groups will be allowed to participate. The ultimate goal is to have a revolving student base work at the store to gain real life work experience and understand what it takes out in the real world (Vocational Education).

Q: What Other programs can we expect, do you already offer?

A: We are starting a Farmers Market in Tilton (Chestnut Street). Pearl Farms has offered to sell our students Maple Syrup and Vegetables at cost and sell them at the farmers market every Thursday afternoon from 3-6.

A: "Caring of Shelves" closet for personal hygiene products. This is something a parent wants to do so if any of you know how are don't use your coupons please let us know.

A: Snack pantry. Another of our parents runs the Twin River snack pantry and is partnering with us and our snack pantry status to provide daily snacks to children in need.

A: Sensory Cart. We have a cart available for recess with items like Chill bottles (glitter and oil bottles), rice boxes with dinosaurs, slime ect. The intention is to take one of the red double bins on wheels and turn that into a full sensory station. We have purchased sequin fabric that that when it flips it's a different color so we will mount that on the sides and the intention is to make it enough for everyone.

A: Girls Club. Some of the older girls have asked if they could have a club and Mrs. Bev and Mrs. Tilton have agreed to volunteer to do that. We will be taking them to Museums, scrapbooking, and other activities. This is so they have a safe place to be where they can be themselves.

A: Aquaponics, Aeroponics, and Container gardens. We have applied for a grant thru Tanger to start this program. We have seeds and some remedial things to start but we really need someone to take that over. Belinda Lumsden to look further into that.

A: Chess Club. Mr. Rago would like to start a chess club as an afterschool activity. He is looking for another adult to help with that.

A: Cribbage. Mrs. Thibault has offered up Mr. Thibault as a possible coach for this and is currently looking for another to assist in this endeavor.

Q: Why do we have tables instead of desks?

A: We teach with Responsive classroom. Responsive Classroom's philosophy shows what environments children lean best in at certain ages. We have a full library of Responsive Classroom books please feel free to stop by and check them out.

Q: Camera's, what do you use them for?

A: We use them primarily if there is a dispute. We can look back and see exactly what happened. In accordance with the State of New Hampshire we do not use them to evaluate students or teachers. Honestly just knowing the cameras are there is enough for most students.

Q: Parent would like to see more critical thinking in school as preparation for life after CCA. Parent sites TED talks and podcasts such as Dinesh DiSousa and Candice Owens. Assumptions vs. actual and dissecting words and speech.

A: CCA teaches from the founding documents and as our children get older, they will be challenged to look deeper into things instead of the face value. Seventh and Eighth grade are doing that now with the Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe. Looking into TED talks and dissecting speech is a great idea.

Q: Where are we on BINGO!?

A: We need to do a few things around the building, and we are working with the church to do so. We are also working with the fire department be compliant with the building and safety as Bingo should bring in the. CCA has a list of things that need to be fixed and or replaced, so we are doing that as fast as we can and as budget conscience as we can (see first question).

We need to submit a seating plan to the fire department. This plan may not be changed. We are also limited to the number of players, 99.

Bingo will also require many volunteers that have their federal background checks done and are available on a regular basis.

Bingo is heavily regulated, and it is going to take much more time to be done correctly but we believe that it is worth it as this is not our forever home and we need to be thinking about either purchasing one at around 1.5-2 million or building one that could come in at around 10 million.

Q: With the curtain down in the gym how will that effect the concerts?

A: We would rather have them at the Opera house. Its much better acoustically and we would not be killing ourselves setting up and breaking down.

Q: Latin, is there something else that we can offer?

A.: We have a new Latin teacher who teaches Latin and Greek interactively thru skits and Mythology. We believe that this will be a positive change for out students as our last Latin teacher was very dry and much more on a level with college children rather than grade school.

We do need to offer a second language and have been looking into that. Spanish seems to be the best choice based on the current business market. We are open to other thought..

Mrs. Lumsden is looking into American Sign Language as an option.

Q: Can we investigate a better website?

A: CCA is already looking into another more user-friendly option. We use Rediker for our Student information system, and we are looking to them to for our web building and hosting needs. It will initially be more than what we currently pay but it will even out to about 200 less than we pay per year now. The great thing about Rediker is that you can update all your forms online and they update automatically to our system. This will save on paper and data entry costs amongst other things.

Q: Summer School?

A: We are currently looking into Summer School and Credit recovery as an option for our students. As soon as our Summer team has ironed out who, how long and when we will let parents and other districts know.

Notes:

It was brought up that Mrs. Tilton and Mrs. Bev will be going to the Charter School Convention in Las Vegas in July. This is a rigorous 4 days of early morning to late evening meeting and talks to further our school and to gain knowledge on how to better serve your children.