

ACOS

Meeting Notes: February 13th, 2013

Meeting began at 10:05 am on February 13th, 2013, in the Quest portable at Hidden Creek Elementary School.

Present:

Maureen, Trina, Joanne, Tracy, Janet, Shannon, Rebecca, Jen, Jude, Erin

Topics:

- School & District Meetings Update
 - Maureen briefed the group about her recent meetings; they were productive and positive; she would like to do more in the future.
- ACOS Meeting with School Board
 - Meeting will take place after a new superintendent is chosen; Joanne will email the group after a meeting date is set (after March 1st).
 - The purpose of the ACOS presentation to the school board will be to inform about academic challenge issues and let them know we are concerned, but we will not push for specific solutions. A small group of ACOS members will meet in advance to prepare the presentation.
- Northwest Symposium for the Gifted
 - No ACOS members attended.
 - Maureen will speak to someone who did attend, and based on what she learns, may look into getting one of the symposium presenters to speak at an evening event for Quest families.
- “Raising Creative Kids” Seminar (will take place in Tacoma on February 20th)
 - Maureen asked for feedback from anyone who attends.
- Gifted Education Day (takes place in Olympia on March 19th)
 - Is an opportunity to speak to state legislators specifically about gifted education.
- Book Study Group
 - The idea of forming a book study group was floated; the group responded positively.
 - First on the reading list: “Living With Intensity” Author(s): Susan Daniels, Ph.D., Editor, Michael M. Piechowski, Ph.D., Editor.
 - The book group will meet once a month.
 - The first meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 20th, at 7pm (location will be determined by number of participants).
 - Trina will email Quest families to inform them about the book study group.
- Focus of ACOS Going Forward
 - Ultimate Goal: Insure that kids are educated to their fullest potential.
- Issues at School (Discussion)
 - Discussed general issues facing advanced students, and how the schools can meet the needs of kids who already know what’s being taught (Question #4).
- Parent Academies and Future Events (Discussion)
 - Discussed past Parent Academies. No plans to put on another weekend academy; future events will be scaled down, inexpensive, and held on weekday evenings.
 - Discussed a future evening event:
 - Will probably have one speaker.
 - Will take place at Hidden Creek Elementary if Maureen organizes/directs it.

- Will try to plan something for mid-May. Maureen will start looking for a speaker.
- Ideas for advertising the event: blurb on the district website, emails, principal robo-call (two weeks prior), ACOS website and Facebook.
- Organizing Parent Volunteering at Schools (Discussion)
- Quest Testing
 - Discussed ways to expand the pool of nominees.
- Connecting Parents (Discussion)
 - Talked about using email to network.
 - Revisited the idea of an e-newsletter.
 - Will create a blog on the ACOS website for the book study group. Will promote the book group on Facebook.
 - “Problem of the Week” puzzles will be promoted on the ACOS website and the ACOS Facebook page.

Next meeting:

April 10th, 10:00 am, in the Quest portable of Hidden Creek Elementary School.

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 11:35 am.

Notes recorded by Janet.