

Chippewa Valley Schools African American Parent Network Meeting

December 17, 2020

Vision Statement: Our vision is to engage African American students in the learning process and to motivate them to become lifelong learners by providing opportunities to develop their academic, physical, social, and emotional growth that will enable and prepare them to become productive, responsible citizens.

Mission Statement: The mission of the African American Parent Network is to collaborate with teachers, staff and administration in Chippewa Valley Schools to create a safe and inclusive learning environment where African American students are valued and respected. We will work together to address implicit bias, eliminate racial inequalities, and promote diversity in the curriculum. We will educate, energize, and empower our community to meet the needs of all CVS students.

Committee Chairs Present: La'Trise Smith, S. Shackelford

Committee Members Present: E. Smith, K. Elms, S. Ward, S. Mannan, J. Bailey

Committee Chairs/Members Absent: A. Taylor, L. Smith, M. Battles, T. Addison, T. Snead, J. Belcher, E. Smith, L. Battles, D. Belcher

Administration Present: Ron Roberts – Superintendent Chippewa Valley Schools, H. Weaver, D. Brosky, N. Faehner, F. Bednard, P. Sibley, R. Wojtowicz

Guests: 31+ participants

A. Call to Order at 7:06 P.M.

1. Welcome – La'Trise Smith
2. Review of Agenda – La'Trise Smith

B. What's Going On?

1. We have had 5 Committee Meetings since August. Our meetings occur every Thursday from 7-8 pm. During the meetings we share information on upcoming events, guest speakers and resources for the group
2. AAPN Parent Brochure – this year we revised our vision and mission statements and established school ambassadors. The school ambassadors are our PTO within the schools. We have over a dozen school ambassadors within our schools and they serve as liaisons between the schools and our parents.
3. Skill Building Thursdays – we have had 5 to date. Kim and La'Trise use these sessions as workshops for our students. The sessions have focused on education, conflict resolution, goal setting and vision boards.
4. The Window Sign Fundraiser raised approximately \$500. The funds raised will be used to purchase materials for Skill Building Thursdays and to provide a gift for the Student of the Month. We are also adding a donation link to the website and Facebook page. Thanks to everyone that supported the fundraiser. We received a lot of support from the district and are planning another fundraiser for 2021.
5. We have 4 interns that have been assisting AAPN. The interns have created a newsletter and have helped with the social media page.

6. Our monthly AAPN newsletter is a good resource for information regarding our group and upcoming activities.
7. The Special Education Resource Guide was rolled out. The guide helps to inform our group of resources available for our special needs students.
8. Student of the Month – please continue to submit so that we can highlight our students.
9. Facebook page – please visit our Facebook page to learn more about our group and upcoming events.

Special Guest: Detective Neil Stafford & Detective Jim Smith

- Both Detectives have been with the Clinton Township Police Department for over 22 years
- Discussed types of penalties (civil infractions, misdemeanor, felony)
- Traffic stops – what to do? Pull to the right, stay in your car, roll window down, keep hands visible and don't reach around in vehicle
 - They will ask you for license, registration and insurance and will explain why they stopped you
 - Outcomes – verbal warning or citation
 - Don't argue – set up a court date to dispute the ticket. Most important - don't drive without your license and don't use your phone while driving
- What are some tips when kids are walking and approached by law enforcement? What are your rights?
 - An officer can stop you if you match the description of someone they are looking for. They have the right to detain you until they can identify who you are. Its important to have your ID.
- Why do officers ask for ID for all individuals in a car when they pull you over?
 - Most want to build a rapport with individuals. According to the detectives, you don't have to give your ID if you are the passenger.
- Do you look at the number of arrests/citations based on race? No
- The detectives indicated they do diversity training. They also collaborate with Macomb and Shelby Township and discuss things when necessary. They work together to make sure things are consistent across schools in the district.
- Clinton Township police are required to wear body cameras all the time, but they don't wear them in schools
- Community Policing – they go to the schools and talk to the kids. They advise students to keep communication open with administration and the school resource officer.
- Officers perform a 9th grade presentation in the fall and explain their role as liaison officers as well as what to avoid. This is a way for the detectives to connect with students. They see value in having police officers in the schools. It is an opportunity for kids to have positive interactions with officer in the schools.

C. What's Next

- HBCU Virtual College Fair on 12/19/20

D. Adjournment

- The meeting ended with closing remarks from La'Trise Smith. AAPN appreciates the administration and Detectives that attended the meeting. This dialogue was informative and needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by Shameeka Ward