

Chippewa Valley Schools African American Parent Network Meeting

March 17, 2022

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: J. Belcher, S. Ward, K. Elms, S. Mannan

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

Administration Present: H. Weaver, N, Faehner

A. Special Guests: Tara Tucker, CEO of Tucker Publishing Company, LLC

Guests: 16+ participants

B. Call to Order at 7:05 P.M.

1. Welcome – La'Trise Smith

2. Review of Agenda – La'Trise Smith
 - Committee positions
 - Words from Harry Weaver and Nicole Faehner
 - Upcoming events
 - Special Guest - Tara Tucker
 - What can you do?
 - Q&A

C. Committee Positions

- Open positions - Website and Marketing Chair
- Open position - Fundraiser Chair (Kellie Stevens expressed interest during the meeting; La'Trise will follow-up with her after the meeting)
- Update from Special Needs Education Chair – Kim Elms
 - Focused on more engagement from students
 - Parent involvement – What do you need to support your students?

- The CVS Career Technical Education Director will be joining the AAPN meeting in April to discuss how the district can engage more African American students
- Additional resources for families with special needs students include Michigan Alliance for Families and The Arc of Macomb

D. Harry Weaver and Nicole Faehner

- Harry congratulated the group on the successes over the past two years.
- Nicole mentioned the bulletins for Black History Month were a success as well as the book drive and that she enjoyed the King Tut event.

E. CVS Board Meetings

- Upcoming Board meetings are scheduled for 3/21/2022 and 4/18/2022

F. Black History Month Book Drive Update

- We collected 83 books; our goal was 100 books
- We received \$75 in donations that will be used to purchase additional books for CVS school libraries.
- The following schools were selected to receive books we purchased and donated:
 - Elementary: Cheyenne, Fox and Miami
 - Middle: Seneca and Wyandot
 - High: Dakota

G. Upcoming Events

- From Thoughts to Poetry – March 24th poetry introductory session from 7-8 pm
- Poetry/art working session April 7th and 14th from 7-8 pm

H. Special Guest – Tara Tucker, CEO of Tucker Publishing Company, LLC

Tara briefly discussed the upcoming publishing sessions:

- Part I: June 30th
- Part II: July 14th
- Part III: August 18th
- Book launch: October 20th

I. STEAM SLAM Macomb Mini-Camp 2022

- Event date: May 7, 2022 from 9am – 12pm
- This is a free event for all CVS youth ages 7-18 to imagine, discover, and explore topics in science, technology, engineering and arts and mathematics
- www.code313.com/macomb - register for the event as an attendee or volunteer

J. Coming soon - Black History 101 Mobile Museum

K. What can you do?

- Email suggestions and support current programming
- Check our website and join us on Facebook
- Support fundraisers and seek donations from organization that will support AAPN

L. Adjournment

- The meeting ended with closing remarks from La'Trise Smith.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by Shameeka Ward