

Teacher Advisory Council Q&A
April 11, 2017

Why are PCHS students not "approved" to be Huggers at Special Olympics, when it is being held at PCHS?

Middle school students do not participate as huggers at the Special Olympics. High school principals were asked if their students could participate as huggers. One school declined and one agreed. So, this year NHS will provide the huggers. - Michelle Flach

If teachers have remaining Star Attendance Rewards at the end of the year, could they possibly be used for things other than reams of paper? (Such as a lunch taken off campus, or a gift card to buy needed classroom school supplies from Dollar Tree or Walmart)

In consulting with the TAC last year, the gift of paper was determined to be the best option. As noted last year, we are always open to other ideas. We cannot use state funds to buy gift cards. If your principal is willing to opt for a lunch off campus, that would be his/her decision. - Larry Cartner

Is there a specific reason why spring break was scheduled so late in the school calendar this year? The length of time just seems to be too much, and too stressful for the students as well as the staff to handle. We are seeing an increase in discipline and behavior issues. Is there any way that this could be avoided in the future?

While the dates for spring break are flexible, there is a community expectation that spring break be tied to the Easter holiday. This usually does not pose a problem, except when Easter comes late. TAC had the opportunity to review and modify the calendar for both 2016-17 and 2017-18. - Larry Cartner

Is there any way for teachers and staff to be protected when incidences happen with students? What are our rights when we are physically being attacked? Do we need a juvenile petition?

Teachers may pursue juvenile petitions against students if necessary. However, principals may pursue charges against a student if a teacher has been physically attacked. - Steve Lassiter

What's being done as far as the needs of our students and the supplies and resources teachers need in comparison to the trips taken to other states to recruit teachers into our district?

Our students are and will remain our first priority. The best resource we can provide to our students is a high quality teacher in every classroom. Recruitment efforts are critical in identifying and hiring excellent talent in our district. Further, the district is committed to ensuring our schools have adequate supplies and resources available for learning to take place. If schools have needs, they should communicate those needs to their principals. - Steve Lassiter

There have been no reports from principals indicating a shortage of supplies. Principals were notified in August of reduced copier allotments August and encouraged to plan accordingly. This is the only shortage of which we are aware.
-- Larry Cartner