

It should be noted that Donna Keim works with Cathy Wright, not Susan Wright, as was noted in the minutes from our last meeting.

PC apologizes for this error.

Contact person: Carrie Thompson at csthompson@peak.org

> Minutes from Parent Connection Meeting, Oct. 16
> Prepared by Signe Danler
>
> Officers reports. Included that Pat Collier will be sending out details of
> the next teachers luncheon soon.
> Carrie Thompson for Alesia Duncombe said the district has proposed that
> the PC listserve be
> moved to the District listserve and run as part of that. There are enough
> complications with the idea that it will stay as-is this year, and perhaps
> move next summer.
> The principal introduced Donna Keim, working as Susan Wright's assistant.
> She is working on a new type of 10th grade assessments and seeking serious
> volunteers to train to help with them. They will also work with kids who
> are
> struggling.
> Donna is also working on career/field trip type projects for students,
> such
> as a field trip to the Portland Art Museum, a project designing mannequins
> downtown, etc.
> Carrie introduced Marta Torres who is translating the newsletter into
> Spanish.. Marta suggested that a student should help with deciding what to
> translate and such.
>
> Yvonne Uribe-Lomnicky gave a power point presentation on Block Scheduling.
> The text of the powerpoint slides is available.where??
> After the presentation there was a lengthy question and answer session.
> Questions were answered by Yvonne or Assistant Principal Eric Wright.
> Q. How is the decision made whether to have such classes as math and
> science
> scheduled by block, or daily?
> A. The teachers in the departments decide, and they feel the current
> arrangements are best for students.
> Q. 80% of respondents to the survey said their students were using their
> off-block time effectively. How is that defined?
> A. By performance, satisfied parents, and how many are having problems.
> Q. How were schools chosen to compare scheduling systems?
> A. As randomly as possible, all kinds, places, sizes of schools.
> Q. Regarding the master scheduling of classes, some classes must be taken
> at
> certain times. How is the master schedule developed, and how much does it
> change after registration?
> A. Courses which are offered only once are placed first, so they don't
> conflict with each other; then double courses. Then they check to see how
> many kids have conflicts, and tweak it until it is as good as possible.
> They
> try to minimize conflicts.
> There was discussion of how the computer algorithm works. It is not as
> sophisticated as they would like, but they are working to improve it.
> Q. If a student drops a class, must they take a replacement class?

> A. If credit was denied, they must take a lab. Otherwise it is
> discretionary
> based on parent and counselor input.
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>If you would like a copy of Yvonne's presentation, please email Carrie
>Thompson at [csthompson at peak.org](mailto:csthompson@peak.org) with your request.