City-wide PTO Meeting
March 1st, 2017 5:00pm - 6:30pm
RHS Learning Commons

Goals:
1) Identify ways to help children successfully navigate transition years
2) Foster effective communication between the school department and parents
3) Provide a forum to discuss and address concerns/questions

Agenda:
- Introductions (5 min)
- Presentation and discussion on Transitions by (55 min)

Key Grade Transitions- Presented by Josh Vadala

Acknowledgement of the loss at the Paul Revere School

- Grade 2 to Grade 3
  Grading: letter based rather than Standards based
  Switching from Learning to Read to Reading to Learn
  Move from practice driven activities
  Application, problem solving, demonstrating comprehension
  Increased on line access and independence: social media
  Homework challenging

  Question asked can there be a focus on --- teaching cyber safety in our schools

- Grade 5 to Grade 6
  New School – buses
  Multiple classroom changes during the day
  Social complications – making new friends
  Emotional complications- hormonal changes
  Increased on line access and independence: social media, cyber bullying
  Academically, the kids are very well prepared. The challenge is balancing 6 FULL courses

  Comment – Please ensure the summer program continues and remains open to all students

- Grade 8 to Grade 9
  New School
Switch to long block and 1 to 1 program
Peer group changes – making new friends
Time management with extra-curricular, jobs, other outside of school commitments, AP work
Increased on-line access and independence: social media, cyber bullying
Even higher levels of self-initiation
Less academic support at home

Question dress code for high school students – start with one grade at a time – phase it in
Discussion on uniforms

Question - Course for parents on technology/ could this be done at a City wide PTO meeting
Power points on website from PTO meetings

- Open Forum (30 min)

Delayed openings discussion – school closings
Last day of school – first day of school
Question – do we conduct lead testing in our schools (Yes, each summer – we are fully compliant in this area)
Update after school – summer program (no increase in cost) – hire Revere staff first – looking at proposals
Question – would Revere ever consider changing start time for students like Boston for older students?
Discussion – challenges of changing vacation weeks
High School graduation date
March 22 – Immigrant Voices at Garfield School invitation