

Minutes of School Community Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

About 2:30 P.M.

Brooke Petersen, Melissa Huntington, Brydi Sharp, Ellen Hadfield, and Tabitha Kelly, representing the Parent Members were in attendance.

Kristine Laws and Sharon Burgess were not in attendance.

Jerel Lofley, Carli O'Neil, and Nancy Hansen representing School Council Members were in attendance.

Brooke Petersen, Chairman, conducted the meeting.

The minutes for the School Community Council Meeting held October 6, 2015, were reviewed. Carli O'Neil motioned that the minutes be approved. Nancy Hansen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Carli O'Neil shared her experiences with the Waterford preschool program. She feels it is a great program. There is a science component of the program.

Brooke Petersen shared ideas Vicki Rasmussen, a teacher, had discussed with her that we might want to include in our plan. One idea is to have additional aides to help teachers work with students needing help and additional practice on skills. The cost of hiring additional aides was discussed. Using aides to work with individual students with the STAR Reading program was discussed. The Council felt that aides should work directly with students.

Jerel Lofley shared another idea Vicki Rasmussen had discussed with him of organizing time after school once or twice a week to work with students who could benefit from extra practice. Brooke Petersen said her son is working on an Eagle Project. She suggested to him that he might set up a program where older students come to school to help tutor students. Students are required to do service as participants in various organizations. Many would probably be willing to become involved. Brooke Petersen accepted the assignment to begin working on this idea. The fact that our school dismissing earlier than other schools in the District was discussed. It was discussed that high school students could probably make arrangements for one or two days a week. This will need to be considered as we plan. Some students are involved in work-study programs. Maybe they can be a resource. Jerel Lofley informed the Council that two students from the high school will be involved in that program and be working at our school from 7:30 to 11:00 A.M. from January 19 until the first part of May. Carli O'Neil suggested there may be other high school students that would be available to come to our school at the end of the school day rather than at the beginning of the day to help with tutoring. Ellen Hadfield stated that tutoring and extra help in the classroom will require someone to coordinate efforts who has the time and organization skills. You can't just get anybody. Additional aides and a tutoring program could be written into our plan. Teachers could be available to help. Brooke Petersen suggested that the aides and tutors could possibly be used in our summer school program. Students involved in the tutoring program would need to be invited. Carli O'Neil talked about the RTI model of Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 and how it could relate to the tutoring program. Transportation needs to be considered. Parents would need to be committed.

The idea of sending a book home with each child each day was discussed. This has been done in the past, but a previous School Community Council suggested this not be done because of time constraints. Recently, Read Naturally has been effective, interesting to the students, and takes less time to complete.

Brooke Petersen volunteered to work on arrangements for student tutors. The possibility of hiring two aides for next year to work with students needing additional help was discussed. Carli O'Neil expressed that the science money set aside for teacher materials to be used in science instruction is helping her class, and other teachers are using it to obtain science materials.

Our next meeting is to be held on March 1.

Brooke Petersen suggested we start the things we can do this school year, and include other items in next year's plan. We can look at hiring the aides for 2-4 hours per week. It was suggested that if the aides were to be paid and the STAR Tutor Reading volunteers were not, conflicts may arise. It was suggested that teachers be asked how they could best use an aide to help struggling students. It was also discussed that the aides hired should work with students. Members of the Council should look at the current finances so see if there is money for aides this year.

Carli O'Neil moved to close the meeting. The motion was seconded by Nancy Hansen

The meeting adjourned at about 3:25 P.M.