

Brookside School Site Council

MEETING MINUTES

September 7, 2010

1. PRELIMINARIES

Meeting Attendees:

Jeanine Dixon (Chair), Tracy Smith, Joyce Chartock, Marci Trahan, Ruth Leader, Eric Dorfman, Teresa Machado, Carrie Rohrer, Barbara Davis, Jennifer Gauna, Holly Shafer and Erin Sher (public rep)

Introductions:

The meeting was brought to order by Jeanine Dixon and Tracy Smith.

Approval of Minutes:

N/A

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, NEW ISSUES

Announcements:

N/A

Reports:

STAR TEST – (Reported by Tracy Smith)

Site Plan - (Introduction and review by Tracy Smith)

3. AGENDA ITEMS

Welcome and Administrative Items: group introductions were led by Jeanine Dixon and a brief history of the site council was presented by Tracy Smith, along with an overview of the site plan and its role.

Agenda Review/Public Input for Future Items: Brief discussion led by Jeanine about our role as site council members

Review of Star Test Results: Tracy explained CMA results – Difference in numbers, 11 ELA and 9 Math, reflects varying disabilities. General look at Star Test results and the trends of improvement across the board, math and ELA. Observations/conclusions were that everyday math program seems to be working. Discussion of general trends: harder math and ELA in 3rd and 5th grade – learning leaps are made in these school years.

In second grade, we raised the expectation and the kids seemed to meet the target. Kindergarten teachers pushed for interventions and emphasized strategies and deliberate approaches. Conclusion: interim measurements are key to success.

Teachers discussed that number writing gets lost in K which is a problem for 1st grade students. Upper teachers discussed All-Day Bears, resource with teacher & assistant allowing for 4 hours/week of extra instruction. 2nd grade teachers went thru training called CORE (again, raising expectations). They followed the Open Court program more closely. In 5th grade, Wordly Wise was introduced this year, a leveled program which students can work at their own level.

Goal for all teachers is to provide interventions without having to wait for end of the year evaluations. New programming and organization allows for more flexibility and sound teaching practices.

Discussion turned to the needs of high-end students. The conclusion was that this varies by class, but there are strategies in place (math challenges in 5th grade, exploration projects in 3rd grade, leveled reading in 1st grade and upper grades) to help push the high end students as well.

Review of Meeting Schedule for 2010-11

Meetings as follows: 10/5 (Lower); 11/9 (Upper); 1/11 (Lower); 2/8 (Upper); 3/1 (Lower); 5/3 (Upper); 5/31 (Lower)

Review of Parent Survey:

Parent Survey not ready for review.

Review of progress toward Site Plan Goals:

Tracy discussed the development process. We will have survey data, support input and teacher input. Will continue to work toward this in later meetings.

4. CLOSING

Wrap up by Jeanine Dixon.