

AS#1 Community Dinner and Meeting - 11/16/09

Elections:

Unanimous approval for the following positions:

Sir Herbert Read:

Zan

Dan Cantrell

BLT:

Ellie Cassidy

Lyn Pasley

Site Council

Chair: Chris Simpson

Co-chair: Dan Cantrell

Secretary: Sarah Dougherty

Introduce co-secretary Position:

Technically we have to amend the bylaws

Unanimous decision to approve:

Megan McCall co-secretary

Positive Discipline in the classroom.

2 years ago staff went through the training and AS#1 was designated a positive discipline school. The methods and strategies have been lost out. It was brought up at BLT and some staff agreed that it PD was not being fully practiced but that teachers were supportive of it.

First step is to get a commitment from teachers that they are behind the effort to bring the training back together. Then the community needs to get the resources together to support the teachers with this.

Students aren't aware of positive discipline

Teachers need more volunteers in the classroom to help with the general class management.

At Summit and AS#1 there was a grant that helped pay for the initial training. There were hardships involved with the follow up with the grant commitment. This became overly time consuming at Summit.

Many parents don't know what positive discipline is so it would be helpful to have a introduction to the concept. There is an informational document going home on Friday. Doh will also include a draft of Site Council support for teachers in this effort.

Ski Sports

Roy: there have been some issues with the cost. Salmon Bay's charges each student \$500 which includes bus, lessons, lift tickets. They provide alternative activities for the students who choose not to participate. The whole school participates in this activity. Staff is willing to give up 4 Fridays with the stipulation that all kids are offered an opportunity to go skiing with lessons. Staff will not support the

ski program without lessons.

Parents: It's the kids' Fridays too teachers don't own that time. In the past students have had to take lessons if they haven't skied before. The person who runs the program through Alpine Ski said that more kids need lessons. Parents should get the say over whether their kid needs additional lessons. We have not gotten an update on the bus prices and availability. There are ski swaps to help reduce the cost 4-500.

Sir Herbert Read has given \$ in the past ~1K-2K. Kids were expected to cover additional cost

Funds have been raised at Husky clean up 2K. There is also a possibility for fundraising at Barnes and Noble.

It's 4th – 8th graders only. We need to know how many people want to participate in order to fund raise the money.

Sara and Maggie's core will donate the Nov 29th clean up to the snow sports program. Kids could have the opportunity to work off their Ski Fee. This gives kids buy in.

Kid Mail

There needs to be more support for making sure that documents go home. Putting things in the office would help. In site council meetings. Having parents post information at school for things they know about would help.

Ask teachers about best practices for getting materials home and checking that kids have given it to their parents.

The directory request went out. Many parents did not get it. Could it be posted to the website so that parents could access it from there. There is a request for core parent volunteers.

Volunteers to call parents should contact Linda

Equity

Encouraging members to participate in site council. Discussed starting a gay-straight alliance. How to do anti-racist work in a K-8 environment. There will be a mini-workshop about undoing racism in a school setting. Its open to parents and staff

BLT

Progress reports – Staff recommends options 1 and 3. Parents also recommend 1 and 3 with the idea that this is a short term fix.

BLT will be working on C-Sip. BLT approved the decision making matrix

Cluster Groups

Site council made a statement last year saying that parents support a wide-range age option. Discussion – where are we at with that.

Factors that impede it:

Comfort level and ability of the teachers
Needs of the students
Number of students

Teachers should have a greater say in this because they are the ones that they have to live with it.

Roy in math – the MAP testing in the middle school showed math skills spanned out from grades 1-10.

Teachers have been wanting to do it

Standardization of clusters troubles

Equity issues for kids who don't have an advocate involved parent lost out on core choice.

New Parents came to the school for the opportunity to be in a bigger grade span. The bigger grade spans is a big part of community building.

Roy will have Ruth, the math coach come in and present to parents what we are doing.

How do we differentiate. Are there ability classes? Can we have options for other kinds of instruction? Being creative and flexible is what alternative schools are about.

Students are being made to repeat math that they did last year.

Parents and kids can access Everyday math at <https://www.everydaymathonline.com/>

We have traditionally moved students up to their grade level or down if needed. Classes were not labeled by grades it was by ability.

Sara: she tore out the pages in the book that identified the grade level so that it wouldn't be a stigma. We are a public school and what are the guidelines that we have to follow. How can we be alternative. Agrees that having Ruth come in to talk with parents can help. She can explain the research that supports grade levels rather than ability grouping. She is a very knowledgeable math professional. How do we address the gaps and work at differentiation.

Passive Fundraising:

There will be a packet of information coming on box tops. There will also be information coming next week on Global Goods Partners (www.globalgoodspartners.org). Nov 23rd to Dec 12th there is a special that will give us 30%. We will start up with eScrip and target.

AS1athon

Kids are excited about it. Having it on a day that kids can participate in is a hit. We will need parent volunteers to help out on this day.

Future meetings

1st Tuesday of the month. Next meeting is December 1st.