

BLT Meeting Minutes - 9/15/09

Notes from Victoria

Present: Victoria, Diane, Carmen, Ieisha, Joan, Lauryn, Maggie, Sara, Darryl, Roy, Leslie, and Megan

1. Cluster Reports

Joan, Sara, Mike, Carolyn, Maggie's core field trip. Salmon homecoming Friday, Sept 18
18 or 19 -

Middle school - big classes, squirrely kids, missing recess

Humanities classes are large, and math electives small
Diane has 29 kids in her classes

Parents: Community Meeting, Tuesday, September 22nd from 6:00-8:30 dinner provided. Equity meeting TBA

Curriculum and open house night Thursday, September 24 from 6:00 to 7:30.

Admin: Lunch room glitch (didn't know student pin #s) now its worked out. Kids are getting out at 12:20, now we'll see them in the hall after lunch.

Busses started out a bit rocky - today all 5 were ready to go-

Safety-wise: students must board and stay on

Safety – teachers meet children after lunch recess - 12:15 (when the bell rings). Kids are eating super slow

2. Administration Report

a. Opening Week: proud of computer system up, a total turn around from July.

b. Enrollment: 218 - not everybody plugged into master schedules.

c. Staffing: Must lose 1.0 FTE - asking for volunteers to displace themselves. Otherwise it will be based on seniority. 2 lowest are one at middle school level and one at intermediate.

We do still have .6 art teacher that is not filled and .5 math coach (but the position's money is from the restructuring plan so we probably can't use it).

Easier shift if lose intermediate teacher but trying to work creatively to use the .6 & .5 positions.

30 Students must walk through our door - recruit 22 in younger grades. Carolyn suggested look for students who can be called back to first choice, talk to current primary parents, look for siblings within our community.

d. Teacher Cluster leaders – 2 staff members from primary and intermediate/ ms will need to be selected by staff to be cluster leaders. They will meet with Roy 2 times a month. will meet Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and lead cluster meetings.

3. Restructuring Plan -

Roy will clarify with the district about student enrollment count and the October date

District is aware our scores are low. That's where the support was generated (math and literacy coach)

4. Decision Making Matrix Review

Who makes decisions such as hiring or making decisions about in house staffing? = BLT has official say

Notes continued from Megan

Discussion about hiring process issue over the summer. A hire was made without Roy having a chance to meet the candidates like the protocol says he should have. Question of whether there is a process and it wasn't followed or the current process is flawed.

Discussion about the current disorganization of parent leadership (co-chairs were MIA last year) and lack of participation (both parents and teachers) on site council and how this affects its role as decision making body. Do other committees (like equity) draw participation away from site council? What is site council's role?

Review previous decision making matrix approved by the BLT 2 years ago

Roy used those to create a comprehensive matrix for communication and decision making. He will get parent input on the document at the Site Council meeting next week.

Where do parents go with questions or concerns? To their core teacher first. Site council for other questions or to share ideas.

5. New student assignment plan -

We are listed as an Option school but it doesn't list us (or any other alt school) as an alternative school. Roy will bring it up with the district. Transportation is to service area but our area is not named yet since the boundary maps have not been presented to the board (should be introduced at October board meeting)

Need to market that middle school students can get a metro pass anywhere in the district to come to AS#1. AS#1 can offer to pay for a metro pass to any K-5 student who can travel by city bus (with parent or older sib).

Roy will take the lead on the campaign to get more K-3 kids into the school before the October 1st cut off (the date we'd have to give up a teacher)

6. Alternative school audit -

Roy has been meeting with Salmon Bay and Thornton Creek principals to strategize. Roy will be looking to people with institutional memory to help him with the audit questions. Parents will elect their 2-3 reps to talk to the auditors and staff will do the same. BLT will approve the nominations. Roy will ask about having current and alum students talk to the auditors as well.

7. Other

Student leadership - really want to encourage students to be active in leadership at the school. Try to get a student BLT rep. Roy and Iesha have some ideas about a student council. Roy will talk about it at the community meeting next week to get parent and student input.

Discussion about the benefits of using Sir Herbert Read for reimbursement vs ASB (associate student body).

What fundraisers do we have?

AS#1-a-thon, Auction, Chinook Book, Husky Stadium

Carmen says we will have to bail the Stadium clean up if more people don't sign up to help. Next week has only 6 people signed up. She would really like a parent to take on the job of organizing it. Teachers said that they would sign up for a week to rally the clean up effort but we still need to fix the problem for next weekend.

Next BLT meeting is 9/29 at ...? 2:45 time is too early for some of the parent reps.