

School Governance Council Meeting

Minutes

Date: January 15, 2014

Location: Crocker Farm Library

Start Time: 3:53 PM

End Time: 5:21 PM

Attendance:

Michele Tesauro

Greta Wilcox

Tara Luce

Becky Demling

Jeni Kaplan

Narayan Sampath

Vira Douangmany

Documents used at the meeting:

1. Agenda
2. FY14 Amherst Public School Budget (from www.arps.org website)

Summary of Discussion:

- A. Acknowledged newly elected staff to SSG (Tara Luce, Greta Wilcox and Mary Lambert).
- B. Discussion of the MLK Jr Breakfast and Assembly held that day at CF. Both parents and staff appreciated the efforts of those who helped make the events happen and commented on the fantastic atmosphere during the

festivities. Invitation to all to attend the town-wide MLK Celebration where the CF 5th and 6th grade chorus is participating in.

- C. Dr. Tesauro will locate and review Parent/Teacher survey data from the Climate Survey done at CF 2.5 years ago and present at next meeting. The Delaware Climate Survey was used by families, staff and older grade students. Survey had approximately a 70% return rate. PBIS focused staff will redo climate survey and redistribute to the CF Community. Comparing the two will inform staff how PBIS is working at CF.
- D. Dr. Tesauro attended the Principals' meeting earlier and while no numbers were discussed specifically, there are no projected cuts at the elementary level. At the School Committee Meeting the following Tuesday, the superintendent will formally release the budget proposal for FY 15. It is reported that there is a decrease in enrollment at the regional level. Money for non-fiction books and professional development are still in the budget.
- E. N.S. presented a budget review of FY 14 as it pertains to CF. Discussion included questions about World Language Funding, projected increases to CF based on increased enrollment at the school (now up 50+ students over last year), and staffing allocations. Concerns were subsequently raised over reading/ language arts skills and homework policy. No major changes are expected in FY15.
- F. Goal Timeline was tabled due to attendance, though the SGC discussed breaking goals down one by one at monthly meetings so that they can be better understood. Discussed the need to additionally assess whether teachers are aware of goals, how do we make parents invested in goals so that they can support them outside of school. Dr. Tesauro will discuss this during here SILT meetings and reminded the group that formulating goals should not be related to the budget but be qualitative and in line with stated National, State and ARPS standards and priorities. The group agreed to review SIP Goal 1 and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.
- G. Vice Chair election was tabled due to attendance and will be discussed later.
- H. The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 PM.