

Site Council Meeting September 19, 2012

1.0 Call to Order

Attendees: Roger Avedon, An Chen, Anu Hoey, Ingrid Kitahata, Katie Pierce, Leslie Huie, Kristina Kaufman, Angie Padian, Colleen Golden, Jay Beams, Betsy Miller, Dr. Jamie Adams

Guests: Don Geddis, Jackie Greenwald (Grandmother)

2.0 Election of Secretary:

We will share the responsibility and rotate the position each meeting.

Snacks:

We will share the responsibility and sign-up was distributed. See Below:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Snack</u>
October 24	Anu	Leslie
November 28	Leslie	Angie, Kristina
December 12	Ingrid	Jay
January 16	Katie	Betsy
February 20	Anu	Colleen
March 27	Ingrid	Katie
April 17	An	An
May 15	Leslie	Jamie

3.0 Minutes from April 20th, 2012, approved

4.0 What is your personal objective for Operation Risk?

- Roger Avedon: Pursue healthy debate and not always drive to consensus
- Katie Pierce: Bring something (a goal, action) to fruition
- Angie Padian: Speak more this year and contribute
- Ann Chen: Promote grab a team mate and participate
- Leslie Hui: Participate and not just observe
- Betsy Miller: Really participate and contribute
- Kristina Kaufman: Hear and see something come to fruition
- Jay Beams: Learn and see how the process works
- Jamie Adams: Use this time to listen more and speak less
- Colleen Golden: Fit/tailor site council goals into the "small kids" classroom
- Anu Hoey: Observe, participate and see something through to fruition

5.0 Current Business: Single Plan for Student Achievement

- Revising and approving the Single Plan for Student Achievement is our #1 job in the near-term. Our group specifically needs to finalize the School Improvement Measurable Goals.

- Timeline: Everyone needs to read and review by next meeting. Please send email with key ideas to change/add to the Site Council prior to October Meeting. Finalize Single Plan by end of November Meeting
- What is the Single Plan: This is a state mandated document. It outlines the plan of actions to be performed at West to raise the academic performance of all students to the level of performance goals established under the Academic Performance Index. The document has 3 key areas: School Overview (provided by Jamie), Estimated Expenditures associated with the Single Plan, and the School Improvement Measureable Goals.
- Roger met with Anthony Ranii to discuss the estimated expenditures associated with the Single Plan. These dollars are used to support the Measurable Goals. Currently, this money is used to supplement instructional aids' salaries. Anthony feels that it would be disruptive to make any immediate changes to these planned allocations in the immediate school year. However, this pool of money should increase over time (assuming economic environment improves), and we should begin discussions about how to use dollars in the future (i.e., salaries for instructional aids, other opportunities).
- Betsy Miller provided an overview of what instructional aids do and the benefits:
 - In 1988, when Betsy started there were 33 kids per kindergarten class
 - Today, the aids serve as right-hand person to class room teacher, lead small group and individual work, do classroom preparation, and assist with lunchroom activities and yard duty.
 - Multiple benefits including consistency, reliability, everyday presence, focus on getting the little kids ready for second grade.

8.0 Future Agenda Items

These are ideas suggested by the group as possible items/actions for future agenda items. We will discuss and prioritize for the coming year. Ideas included:

- Have Modell come and discuss star testing results and future curriculum plans. We would like to leverage her plans into are future goals/actions. We will try to get Modell to speak at a Parent Group Meeting to allow for greater discussion during SC meetings. **[Post meeting update: Modell is confirmed at the WPG meeting, December 7 at 8:45 am in the West MPR]**
- Allocation \$\$ for the West Parent Group. The allocation committee is going to give the SC approximately \$5,000 to support our goals. How will we use this money? We need to determine by January deadline. We will discuss in the December meeting. Please begin to consider prior to this meeting.
- Review the computer lab situation given the new teaching structure without a designated Computer Lab Instructor. Get feedback and insights

- for instructor and teachers to determine if adjustments are required. This discussion can be held in the spring.
- Speedy Facts have been brought up negatively again in a single instance; we are not currently getting significant complaints. What can be done to share past efforts in Speedy Facts with the public at large? Does the SC want to spend any more time on this topic since it was a significant effort last year? Is the issue better communication to new parents?
 - It has been observed that most if not all West teachers supplement the official Everyday Math curriculum. What is the perceived gap in EM and how does this apply for the different grades?
 - Does the grading scale on report cards accurately reflect the grades achievable at West? If not, how can we adjust the rating scale to be more accurate? Is it possible to achieve 4s? What is required to achieve a 4 and is that consistent across grades and teachers?
 - How do we enrich the curriculum for those kids that meet benchmark early on in the school year? Especially in the primary grades.
 - Obesity is a growing concern for children. Does the lunch window encourage proper eating habits? Can we provide more information/ education about nutrition?
 - How to leverage computer-based learning to let kids to learn at their own speed given the budget constraints and larger class sizes? Especially for children who are excelling in classes.
 - Behavior on the playground? Bullying? How is it going at school? What works at home? Can we leverage learning's in both directions?

Homework:

- Review the Single Plan and have a point of view on the measurable goals for October meeting
- Schedule Modell to present at Parents Group Meeting (Ann Chen to do)