

West Hillsborough Elementary School
Site Council Meeting

November 13, 2013

- 1.0 Call to Order
- 2.0 Approval of Minutes for October 16, 2013
- 3.0 Current Business
 - 3.1 Single Plan for Student Achievement
Principal Jamie Adams shared progress of Plan with
Three year plan reflected until 2015.
 - 3.2 Site Council Approved the Single Plan as Revised.
- 4.0 ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Principal Adams states that West Hillsborough School has been invited to apply for the Distinguished School Award. She wanted parents input from those present at Site Council meeting. Indifference was the response from those at the table.

Supervisor to ask the Board if can be Principal's decision based on parent feedback, etc. needed regarding the time investment for staff participation.

What does that mean? What is the energy level involved for the staff? What's the parent culture like here? For a plaque on the wall, and no awarded money, it does take a considerable amount of time and energy for the Principal and Staff. That alone can detract from quality teaching time, due to school visits for observation, the need to refurbish the décor, the committee of staff members for writing, brainstorming what makes West school special. It would all be due by December 15th, 2013.

How is the school chosen?

The Award is related to API and many variables, very much a part of criteria.

What are the benefits?

Pride to show off hard work. Spruce up. The sense of organization and morale is a positive to bring the overall vision together. Currently much work with new teachers to be assured of performance. Last year was unique with changeover of teachers, introduction of the Common Core, training and support, etc.

It would make sense to package with written, descriptive information that already exists. Examples: about the Common Core, Essential Outcomes & Operation Risk. As well as the response to Intervention, Student Leadership, etc.

The Principal, Dr. Adams, is quite confident that the Staff is very forward thinking, as is, with or without applying and earning a distinguished school award.

5.0 OPEN FORUM AND INITIAL THOUGHTS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS. PLEASE SEE ROGER AVEDON'S LIST.

Last year handed out writing assignment for each topic to research.: GATE, safety, health, nutrition, lunch, homework, technology in classroom, high achievers,

Staff contribution desired for issues to identify.

If top 10% in STAR testing two years in row, then qualify for GATE.

Concerns from a 4th Grade teacher:

Concern that spelling going downhill. Look in to WHY. Spellcheck?

Mindfulness is the buzzword. Jamie Evans is sharing in classes....functioning, impulsivity, etc...

Being able to focus and the role of electronic devices

Typing too much compared to handwriting? Too much screen time?
Cursive?

New Technology in the Classroom

Lunch time---students desire more time. Dr. Adams has been monitoring this. A parent suggested how in other cultures, the meal is a thoughtful ritual time to relax, enjoy, dine and socialize. Quiet Dining. Of the past...grades 3,4,5 are managing better to eat whereas younger ones in general are not managing time well enough for all food.

Science Fair---"Steam Fair" (education fair) not just Science.... Learning evening...like Family Math (similar to Common Core) ...at night Family's do math together

Writing Competition

Programming, coding,

Community Service Projects (// Shelter Network)

Gender focus on different skills

Get feedback from Crocker about gaps regarding graduated West students

Mindfulness/Bullying/Essential Outcomes/Cyber safety

Theatre/ Drama program

HCSD Forward—10 year Plan with a Steering Committee

What are we trying to teach?

How are we trying to teach?

Role of Competition/ School Culture

Perhaps good idea to consider from FORWARD list.

World Language/Culture (a favorite topic for the district's Supervisor)

Role of Competition

Competition against personal best; competition one against another; it is a reality.

Girls...girl power...LEAN IN...

Competition for December meeting.....intro to Competition issues in public/school environment...Roger volunteers to do first one.

List of Topics summarized.

Make next meeting to vote on...

What about a forum –educational—speakers in the evening? West Parent Group.

Extension –possibility—for evening meetings...

Use Room Mothers to inform parents.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT