



Inter-School (Parent) Council Minutes

April 13, 2017

The Inter-School (Parent) Council met at noon on April 13, 2017 with Superintendent Dr. Lori Simon calling the meeting to order. Board of Education members in attendance were Ron Riherd and Sheryl Kirkeby.

Dr. Simon welcomed everyone for attending and explained the group's activity for the day. The Strategic Plans' Vision, Mission, Core Values and Goals were displayed around the room. Dr. Simon had small groups go to each document and provide feedback. Dr. Simon reminded the group that the Strategic plan is at least a five year plan and implementation will begin next year. Below are comments shared:

Vision

- Inspiration!
- Excel!
- Parent Involvement is an utmost import – if parents are not involved, a student advocate should step in.
- Reading by 3rd grade = hope = breaks cycle of poverty = success
- Proactive open discussions
- 2 way communication
- Open to feedback
- Southwest – 6th grad orientation – to big a group for orientation – format
- Lack of inspiration
- Inspire moving out of poverty mindset/victim

Mission

- Engage – empower and thrive in their future – diverse world – love!
- Love that it is student – centered
- Passion to give back to community
- How do we engage all learners? (understanding their learning style – essential)
- Extra help w/out IEP?
- Giving kids personal responsibility and accountability for themselves!

Core Values

- Diversity!
- Partnership – who?
- Creativity – think outside the box!
- Problem solving and collaborating – method?
- I am beginning to understand the importance of community and partnerships.

- Wish these were action statements.
- Maybe include a definition/glossary page for words to define meaning.
- How do we get community and educator ownership?
- Recognition for volunteering and supporting schools (plaques for their business offices, good p/r)

Reading by 3rd grade

- Early identification!
- Intervention/differentiation
- Kindergarten readiness is critical
- Is there Pre-K opportunities/screening to allow for intervention before kindergarten begins?
- Where is community involvement here?
- Early learning (Pre-K) falls on parents. What possible resources are available?
- What happens with the students that are advanced?
- Phonics? Struggling students may need different method, philosophy, or strategy.
- Dyslexia! Not a Dirty word.
- Reading Plus – great once phonics based instruction completed.

21st Century learning

- Self-directed learning – Love this!
- Define 21st century skills
- Experience - Partnerships – hands on
- STEAM2 – collaborations
- Technology integration to enhance learning- YES
- How to finance 21st century learning in dated schools?
- Technology use over powers face-to-face interaction ☹️
- Entertain vs Educate
- What does this look like? Rigor and relevance/self-directed learning
- Enhance learning – addressing different learning styles
- Be sure “21st Century Learning” is well-defined when communicating.

College, career and Life Readiness

- Career exploration – internships??
- Graduation expectations – standards/requirements
- Multiple pathways and opportunities – good stuff!
- If you are not going to college – no one there to help.
- Bring in community experts/business leaders
- Need more life options
- Show them possibilities!
- Consolidate information about diverse options – begin 6th grade

Teaching and Leading

- Positive school climate from administration
- Evidence based best practices and innovation
- Understanding the true meaning of leadership

- Mentorship and scaffolding for new teachers.
- Discovery, Curiosity, “Outside the box” thinking
- Risk-taking contradicts research-based practices
- Leadership-incentives?
- Content/what? = Role specific

Partnerships

- Effective partnership
- Student leadership
- Investment in the community
- Districtwide volunteer program – training to standards – invite/train/place/recognize
- Clothe-a-kid – communication about opportunities
- Where are we utilizing success over drug/alcohol use
- Can families/parents be mentioned specifically?
- Volunteering that is meaningful, valuable, and effective.
- Partnership that are impactful not superficial.
- If students feel needed in the community, they will be more committed.

School Highlights:

Horace Mann – There will be a girls run on May 12th. This will be the first one in the state involving 3rd and 5th grade students in a 5K run.

Pinedale – Pinedale gym doubles as a lunch room so the PTA put sound absorbing plans on the ceiling of the gym and it has made a big difference in noise levels. Standardized testing is being administered and teachers are reinforcing students with a positive attitude and reinforcing them to trust in themselves. A fundraiser was held to benefit Humane Society.

Southwest – A fabulous talent show was held and the 6th graders did a wax museum which was a benefit for the Humane Society.

Corral Drive – They had a dance on St. Patrick’s Day with a professional DJ.

South Canyon – A family dance was held to coincide with “We Love Our School” week. Proceeds were donated to a family with a child in school that has on-going medical costs. Book fair coming up. Bingo night was held with those with good attendance were given free bingo cards.

North – Students continue to fundraise for their DC trip. The students are learning lessons as they do their fundraising projects which makes them “employees” such as staying off their cell phone and courtesy/manners. The fundraising efforts were revitalized when students learned that the trip was paid for but now they are earning spending money.

General Beadle – Bingo was held along with another fundraiser – pennies for playground equipment. A donor came forward and paid for the playground equipment. PTO has established a Facebook page. The PTO is donating shoes, clothes to students that are struggling and some 5th grade students conducted a fundraiser to help a former GB teacher that is battling cancer.

Robbinsdale – A team from Robbinsdale participated in the Polar Plunge with proceeds going to Special Olympics. Thank you to the orchestra teacher and the wonderful city wide Strings in Concert held recently.

West – The wax museum will be held soon at West. They are doing a fundraiser with BAM and a book sale with proceeds going to the reading program. The librarian does monthly challenges – March Madness and April is For Peeps Sake! Teacher appreciation is being planned.

Stevens – Two students qualified for the national debate team. Prom is next week and students at RCHS conducted a prom dress drive for those students unable to purchase a dress. Question: Is there anyway for the guys to get suits?

Happy Spring to all!

Thank you for your attendance and just a reminder that the next meeting will be May 11, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Fletcher
Senior Administrative Assistant