

Willett School Site Council

November 16, 2011

Minutes

In attendance: Heidi Perry, Christine Firpo, Michelle Agnew, Laura Averett, Paula Badham, Kim Foerster, Michele Parker, Elizabeth Ewens, Marci Bernard.

1. Order and Roll

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 by Christine Firpo.

2. Public Comment

No public comment was made.

3. Approval of October minutes

Laura moved to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2011 meeting, Elizabeth Ewens seconded and the minutes were approved.

4. Committee Reports

a. SPAC – there will be a meeting in 2 weeks.

b. GATE Advisory – there will be a meeting on November 28th.

c. ELAC – Tonight at 7:00 p.m. Heidi will cover school plan, budget and Marci will make a presentation on the reading program and reading counts.

d. PTA – Michelle Agnew: The contract was approved for the school year book. It will be for sale to all families. Every 6th grade student will receive one and it will sell for \$18--\$20. Measures Q and W efforts were discussed and Willett needs a precinct captain and a phone captain. There is currently \$22,000 in the bank. The fundraising auction will be March 17th. Parents are needed to solicit businesses and we will need the involvement of families and teachers for auction items. There is still a need for room parents as liaison for the PTA - Upcraft only. Buckhorn orders are being turned in and the Innisbrook orders have been placed. The un-fundraiser will continue this year. There was concern of too much fund raising articles in the Who's News, so grade level corners will be in future issues. Whootie was at the Fun Run and the monthly assemblies and he was a big hit. Golden One bank day will be the 3rd Wednesday of every month encouraging kids to start saving.

5. GATE Coordinator – Deanne Quinn

Deanne first discussed the Search and Serve Process for Universal Testing of 3rd Graders in the Davis Joint Unified School District. The 5 step process is outlined in the handout. GATE should be representative of overall students in the district. The OLSAT8 test is given to all 3rd grade students. Parents can opt out and are given an opportunity to do so in an information letter that is included in Back-to-School information. The criteria for immediate qualification is a total score of 96th%ile and a Verbal or non-verbal of 96th%ile minimum. Districts are required to "Search and Serve" students for the GATE program, which is why we have a re-screening process. In the rescreening process, students must meet at least two of the following criteria: risk factors such as language, health, designated special education, socioeconomic, cultural, etc. which are taken into consideration and those students identified for rescreening are tested using the TONI-3, a test of nonverbal intelligence. Parents can request outside testing and submit a referral form. Deanne says that they have a very tight process on approving the outside testing. CSUS is another possibility for testing and the cost is \$60. They do everything they can to level the playing field. Some GATE identified children stay in their own school rather than attend a GATE school. This is especially true of Patwin and Montgomery. When asked why the GATE test is not announced, Deanne explained that it creates much less stress for the kids. Each district determines at what grade GATE will begin, and in Davis it is 4th grade. Most of the GATE students in Davis are in the 97th%ile or higher. There is always a waiting list. The other handouts from Deanne

outline the placement process for Intellectually Gifted Students requesting the self-contained GATE program and answer the question – How do I get my child evaluated for the GATE program? GATE teachers must have required additional training and have training sessions during the school year. At Willett, we are articulating between the three GATE classes. Deanne said that kids here are ready for Jr. High and are successful.

Deanne can be contacted at dquinn@djusd.net. Her cell phone is 916-761-8741. She works 3 days per week at the District Office. All the information she handed out is available on the website.

6. Site Update –

The PTA website now shows how measures Q & W would impact Willett when they sunset. December 14th is the Fill the Car event “Chips for Kids” when kids can bring NEW, UNWRAPPED items to fill up the police car. We are short \$8,400 on our 6th grade outdoor education money. Under new legislation, our district will be required to have a transition kindergarten class. Heidi said that we will need 3 in our district to start. Children born November 2nd to December 2nd will go in the transition class (TK). Board approval will be needed to approve locations for these classes. Patwin, Korematsu, and Montgomery are the recommended choices. Heidi is working on the committee for Transition Kindergarten. A piece of the committee’s work will be assessments to qualify children for transition kindergarten and students turning five after the cut off date. Now, if you are 5 you qualify. This will eliminate children from starting in February or March just because they are 5, but may not be ready.

Heidi handed out the 2011-12 Site Plan & Reflections: Alignment of Budgeted and Actual Personnel Costs and Site Funding and Programs. The total Actual Salary/Benefits in Reflections totals \$65,921. (copy attached) The reading room will be able to add more hours and additional funding was allocated for the instructional computer specialist. Measures Q and W provide Reading Specialist (1.0), Math Specialist (.50), Science Prep Teachers (1.444), Music Program (.40), librarian (.50), and class size reduction. Heidi then handed out (attached) the API scores which are currently at 931. This is a drop from last year at 934. The highest year was 2008 at 948. The “No Child Left Behind” legislation requires that all children be proficient in math and language arts at every grade level by 2013-14. Here at Willett we are pinpointing and giving interventions to kids that don’t meet these levels. Heidi will be presenting all this to ELAC tonight.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Paula Badham