

Jacobs School Council Minutes from 3/10/09 meeting

Present: Donna Tobin, Debbie McCarthy, Cindy Whelan, Greg Whelan, Bill Tramontana, Kerri Ryan, Kathy DeiCicchi, Elaine Menice, Lisa Canavan

Absent: David Dunn

Meeting Started at 6:35

- I. 2/24/09 Meeting Minutes accepted.
- II. Hull Parents Involvement Forum: introduced to council. Suggested to look for ways to utilize the web site (www.hull-parents.org) and organization to the school's benefit
 - a. The organization still needs leaders for each initiative. Currently, the school directory, PR and homework club have leaders
 - b. The organization should be asked to come to either an individual school council or district council meeting to present their initiative(s)
 - c. There are approximately 70 parents who have become involved in the organization already. It was expressed that those 70 would present a powerful presence at other events, activities, forums.
- III. School Improvement Plan Review and Update
 - a. **Communication**
 1. Grade level curriculum updates currently being done by Mr. Kyle, gym teacher. More opportunities need to be offered for other teachers/interest areas. Is it possible to have the Blue Notes sent via email rather than paper with the parents able to opt-out of the paper version? Contact M. Ollerhead for a "how to".
 2. Coffee Hours have low attendance. Suggestions: free day care? Kid event tie-in? Homework helper time?
 3. Monthly mention in local news media: a little better with parents writing letters-to-editor. Questions: is there the content to fill bi-monthly columns? Are other councils doing this? Can we do it as a district rather than a school? Can we readily identify several enrichment opportunities which can be highlighted (art program and math league for example)? Is it possible to get the pictures as the backdrop on channels 22 & 10? Big question is follow-through. Who will be responsible? Possible tie-in with Hull Parent Involvement Forum?
 4. Other venues: add MMS & JS student info. to school committee report from HS student. Perhaps more outreach needed to *Patriot Ledger* and *Tiny Town Gazette* as well.
 - b. **Parent Outreach**
 1. Survey done in Dec. & Jan.
 2. Survey results being reviewed for strengths. A Teachers 21 consultant is coming in April to present results to staff. Does this feed into Parent Involvement Forum?
 - c. **Curriculum update**
 1. New science curriculum is a "great program" which incorporates D.I. at reading levels with modifications
 - d. **Enrichment programs for high performing students**
 1. DOE eliminated the enrichment grants this fiscal year
 2. After-school/out-of-school grant funded programs include MCAS remediation, grades 4 & 5 science, open gym, grades 4 & 5 book discussion groups (in conjunction with HPL) and the Hull Lifesaving Museum program
 - e. **Re-Institute a Safe Schools program**

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1. Ms. Costa is using 2nd Steps weekly with grade 4 students as is Ms. Walper with grade 5 (in lieu of library time). 2nd Steps is integrated in the other grade levels throughout the year.

f. Student academic support

1. Obtain year two of ASOST DOE grant completed
2. MCAS remediation classes for grades 3, 4 and 5 struggling students underway
3. Small lunch groups found to be not effective
4. HHS Honors students as tutors underway

g. HR & PD

1. Skillful Teacher on-site course(s) offered
2. *Strategies that Work* book group underway
3. Systematic PD tracking opportunities in-process
4. Access to PD in content areas available though not internally

h. Data Analysis

1. Core group to assess data and develop action plan(s) has been started but needs to be revisited
2. MCAS and Terra Nova reports in a new format. Parent form is much more user friendly. Teacher form is also improved.
3. Consistent scoring rubrics are still evolving. The scoring is more towards skills attainment at grade level

i. Financial and Asset Management

1. New town accounting system transition completed
2. Materials ordering system still needs to be developed

- IV. Lunch Program: New forms are now sent home for students with 3rd charge. Calls to home are made that night. The total charge amount has been significantly reduced to approximately \$350.00.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15. Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 4/15/09 at 6:30.

ADDED 3/30/09 - Note meeting date change to **Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 6:30**