

PAC MEETING SUMMARY

April 4, 2013

8:30 – 10:00 AM

Guests: Mr. Brian Ayers (Principal), Lisa Sheehan, Dr. Watson (District Superintendent), Steve Johnson (Deputy Superintendent), Lori VanVleet (Thrive), Susan McGrath (Bozeman School Board) and Katie DiBerardini's (CJMS Counselor).

PAC Board present: Tara Harrison, Rachel Bos, and Jannet Borrmann

Members present: Bruce Brown, Tootie Dunniny, Lydia Trom, Rachel Bos, Mindy Harlin, Michelle Bailey, Laura Jones, Tara Harrison, Dawn Tarabochia, Rachel Bos and Jannet Borrmann.

- Rachel Bos opened the meeting and asked Principal Ayers to go first with an update on Title I Program. Lisa Sheehan was introduced and asked to tell us more about Title I. The goal is to increase family engagement and involvement. Title I money is currently used to provide money for salaries and professional development, a certain amount is required to be set aside according to federal requirements, and a portion goes to supply educational services for students, like tutoring for example (Kids that qualify for free/reduced lunch can qualify for tutoring). If a school does not reach AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress as measured by the CRT's) it can lose its Title I funding. There are many reasons why a school can 'fail' and some are dependent on group sizes and/or bigger schools. Money also gets used to pay coaches so kids don't have subs all the time, it pays for Thrive, rents etc. Sequestration will have an effect on probably next year's school year but that's nit figured out quite yet. Title I is NOT based on income; it's based on math/reading tests. The money a school gets however is based on free/reduced lunch numbers that are above district numbers. At CJMS, Title I funding is used to pay for Sylvan, half of Katie Diberardini's and Thrive and other positions and after school programs. This also funds the HOT lunch and PACE programs.
- Principal Ayers talked more about wanting to form more of a partnership with parents to get more ongoing input on decisions. Lori VanVleet talked about the survey that went home with the last report cards and they're getting a lot of them back which is great. There's a drawing for movie tickets and they'll be generating info from that survey soon. There's a goal for a consistent, mainstream communication where people can always get to. The CJMS website will be under the school's own control next year and there'll be a creation of daily news and district news in there too. Mr. Ayers also added that money would be spent on insulation in the cafeteria ceiling, which will make meetings there more possible.
- Dry Watson and Steve Johnson were introduced and talked about the upcoming election and levies. A complete ballot information leaflet is attached to these minutes or can be downloaded from the districts' website. First issue discussed was the Common Core Implementation. This is a National Curriculum approved by the State of MT for English and Math with Science yet to come. The name of the test is Smarter Balance and information is available on the website broken down by grade. These tests are digital so there needs to be an increase in technology i.e. more bandwidth and more hardware and software. There is a request on the ballot for an increase in the technology levy. Open enrollment changes and boundary realignment was briefly discussed as well as the opening (partially) of the new elementary school this fall. The building reserve levy needs maintenance funds for example for Morning Star and Emily Dickenson which are now both about 20 years old. There are 4 levy requests on the ballot for district #7 and one

for the bigger district, which is High School only district. The issues are determining the funds for the General Fund which is app. 70-80% of all monies spent, which goes towards paying teachers, utility bills, curriculum materials etc. etc. and additional requests by administrators for \$2.7M (priorities need to be made!) If Senate Bill 175 passes it would give schools most funding, if it does not pass the board would have to pass lower amounts. SB 175 has support from all educational groups. Size of High School was also discussed. The High School population currently is around 1,900. 2400 Students would be the target before another High School is to be added. Logic behind that is that two 1,200 kid schools would make a good sized school that could potentially offer all things that we'd still like to see like AP French etc. A smaller school wouldn't be able to offer things like that and a lot of classes might have to be eliminated. Sometimes classes are over capacity by 1 or 2 students but that's only allowed for a few years. Susan McGrath briefly came in to talk about running for School Boards.

- Safe Routes to School was discussed which is funded by a grant, which might go away. Lots of schools have involved their PAC's. Leo Club is currently also involved. We need parental input. Most of the money now is used for snacks, prizes etc. Million Ways Club helps out too. Katie attended a meeting with GVLT; sidewalks on Baxter are another three years out and there's a missing bridge according to GVLT in the park area. Parents commented on unsafe drop off and pick up situations in the parking lot. Maybe a volunteer parent is needed to patrol this. Suggestions for alternate drop offs are needed too? Research shows a brief 5 minute walk before school is great. Teacher's parking lot drop off was considered but this is probably unsafe and interferes with busses.
- Fun Run Date is scheduled for May 10th. Rachel is going to provide Brian with a list of potential invitees and what the parameters are, i.e. can the ROC bring their climbing wall etc. Brian requested a meeting between Dawn, Clint and teamleaders to discuss. Maybe an afternoon assembly too? All day events etc.
- Report from the Treasurer: It was decided to match the teachers ticket sales from Spirit Night 100% up to \$100. Motioned and carried by Tara Harrison and Mindy Harlin. Details: We had \$6,222 in the account after all expenses and deposits have been caught up. \$250 of this is earmarked for trees from a donation from Carl Lehrkind IV. So we have roughly \$6000 left for the year and to start next year with. Spirit Night: We made \$1,295 before paying the teachers for their tickets. Total amount including match will be \$2,074. This will leave the balance in the account at \$3,898.
- No Major Events this Month of April: Friday April 12, 2013 there will be NO SCHOOL

If anyone would like to VOLUNTEER or DONATE, please contact Rachel Bos at 570-1384 or rachel.bos5@yahoo.com and we will get you set up! Thank you for supporting CJMS