

**Laurelwood Elementary School
School Site Council Meeting
January 13, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Diana Morlang.

Attendees: Diana Morlang (Co-Chair), Sabrina Rumford (Co-Chair), Linda Gentry, Amanda Laughlin, Bonnie Lieberman (Secretary), Kristin Dentone, Robyn Alves, Linda Varveris, Susan Auclair, Pam Ordahl, and Kelly Neary.

Review of Agenda: Ms. Morlang reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The November 18, 2014 meeting minutes were presented for approval. Ms. Morlang called for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Gentry and seconded by Ms. Rumford to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

District News: Ms. Ordahl introduced herself and explained that she would be on campus on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week. Barbara Sink would be on campus on Thursday and Friday of each week until winter break in February. After break, someone else will take over those days. Ms. Ordahl attended the Superintendent's meeting yesterday, however, there were no updates on the bond measure that passed or on the modernization project, other than it is still in the planning phase.

Site News: Ms. Ordahl announced that the second computer lab is up and running. The district was in service on January 5th. Ms. Ordahl discussed some of the new core standards. Ms. Ordahl then reviewed the timeline for finding a new principal as one will be in place for the start of the year in the fall. The Chromebook carts are functioning at the grade levels and, while the kinks are still being worked out, the majority of teachers are using them at least once a week.

At this time, the School Site Council introduced themselves to Ms. Ordahl.

Review of the Single Plan for Student Achievement: Ms. Morlang announced that Ms. Auclair had a statement she would like to read to the council. At this time, Ms. Auclair read her statement, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. A discussion was then held regarding Ms. Auclair's statement. Ms. Ordahl discussed the strict guidelines on hiring in the district. She stated that if you do not have repeat funds to continue the position the following year, you cannot hire someone. A new hire must have that same position the following year. In addition, the human resources department must be involved in any hire. You can hire someone for a short term, limited assignment that ends when the particular project is completed. But, if that same job must be done every year, then that person is guaranteed that job the next year. Pam

then encouraged the council to table any discussion of hiring a reading intervention specialist until more information could be obtained from human resources. Additionally, because the funds we have now are not guaranteed for future use on the same item, perhaps those funds should be spent on something rather than someone.

Ms. Morlang then addressed the questions of the limitations on the spending of SPSA money and what it is that Laurelwood EL students really need. Ms. Morlang mentioned that the consensus among the teachers and parents was that additional support staff was needed. Ms. Ordahl responded by asking what the longevity would be of the person you put into place if you hired more staff. Perhaps computer programs like Rosetta Stone could be used to provide language support in the lab or at home.

Ms. Varveris addressed the concern among upper grade teachers that the Reading Recovery and Reading Intervention Specialist were only being used in the primary grades. She finds that the upper grades rarely have support for students who need extra reading assistance. Rather than hiring an entirely new person, perhaps the school could extend the hours of an already existing employee to provide this needed reading assistance.

Ms. Ordahl told the council that next week she would be meeting with the district about budget money and she would have more answers in time for our next meeting.

Ms. Dentone said that the money for technology for grades 2-5 was frozen right before the end of last year.

Ms. Ordahl then suggested to the council that they focus on spending the money that must be used between now and the end of the school year on things rather than on people.

The council then discussed various ideas for using the money that must be spent before the end of the school year, including adding hours to an existing employee for an upper grade RIS/Reading Recovery person, an EL facilitator, conflict management person, organized play for students at recess, nonfiction books, and new playground equipment. Ms. Rumford reminded the council that before we can make these types of decisions, we would need to see both the updated SPSA and the updated budget from the SPSA so we know what money has been spent to date and the amount that remains. Ms. Ordahl told the council that she would obtain the dollar amounts spent by purchase orders submitted in December so we would know what has been spent to date. Once she has that information, we can then discuss what to spend the money on.

Ms. Morlang proposed adding a council meeting in early February to discuss reallocating the available funds under the SPSA. Ms. Morlang called for a motion to be made to approve the addition of an emergency meeting on February 3rd at 6:00pm. A motion was made by Ms. Varveris and seconded by Ms. Gentry to approve the February 3rd meeting. The motion carried.

Technology Plan for Teaching and Learning: Ms. Varveris provided the council with copies of the Common Core standards and technology by grade level. A short discussion was held regarding these standards.

Postponement of Agenda Items: Ms. Morlang called for a motion to postpone discussion of agenda items 7 and 8 until the next meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Rumford and seconded by Ms. Varveris. The motion carried.

Adjournment: Ms. Morlang called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Lieberman and seconded by Ms. Dentone. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Bonnie Lieberman, Secretary