

School Site Council Notes for 10/12/16

1. **Welcome/ Attendance:**

B. Hoey, E. Gilreath, J. Lang, J. Sorota, T. Blanchard, J. Rogers-Burke, W. Crocker-Roberge, C. Bell, K. Gleba, C. Baldwin

2. **Budget Allocations:** The purpose of SSC is to have informative decision making for school improvement planning for instructional, facilities and budget.

Allocations review- As of Oct 1st enrollment from 2015-2016 (\$100 Elementary/ \$ 110 Middle per student) is considered for allocation.

Professional Development - Teacher stipends, PD learning / Subs, paying teachers extra time for PLC / planning (we are currently setting goals so we are starting with the budget, in order move forward).

General Supplies- ordered Sept, Jan., and March

3. **School Improvement Plan:**

A. Goal setting Process-

Pyne had a data team that started last year. We are examining the districts 5 pillars in relation to our data and where we have areas of strength and weakness in order to attach our school goals. We focus on Pillar 1 (Learning experience / instructional quality) and Pillar 3 (Growing a strong, skilled, diverse work force). The first step is our self-assessment utilizing data, evaluations, teacher ed. rubrics for strengths / growth in order to develop the school goals. We are focusing on our LEP and Sped. student subgroups for targeted instruction and use of technology for high achieving students. Once our goals are crafted then action steps are solidified. Our School Improvement plan will be completed in Dec.

B. School Garden – Lesson plans are being formulated for garden fall planting. Farmer Jeff is creating lesson plans to do in class / outside with hands on activities. A padlock will be placed on the garden gate for security.

On the early release day, staff reflected on the past 5 years of change, improvement and moving forward. Technology was a large part of the discussion. The PTO will celebrate the Pyne accomplishments Monday, November 7th at 7:00 with the released scores and Superintendent and Asst. Superintendent will be in attendance.

C. Capital Improvements: - The Puzzle Piece fundraiser has begun and we have already finished our first themed puzzle. A full puzzle is \$300, which would be good advertisement for a local business. C. Bell asked about time line? The elementary and middle school are on different time lines and this fundraiser may take a long time due to the numbers of individual puzzle pieces to sell.

4. **A Extra Curricular Programs review-** Breakdown of funds and explanation of 2016-2017 changes

Donna Miceli will be starting a dance program once the grant is approved

B. Additional Tutoring Services reviewed- Added 2 tutors (½ hours) to be paid for over scheduled hours. C. Bell asked about MMCC students volunteering to tutor for community service hours and to work with middle school students.

C. Remaining funds reviewed -PLC and study groups reviewed. Allied Arts / Reg Ed. teachers are collaborating / planning time, 4 times during the year that will be supplemented.

5. **Progress Monitoring:** 2016 Preliminary Accountability Data shared with council. The Pyne is the highest-ranking % in the district and in history of the school. The Daley is second. Science and 4th grade were areas of weakness and took the biggest dip but was similar across the district. B. Hoey expressed concern about too much testing. W. C-R explained that actually this year there is less testing with I READY (Sept., Feb., June) and we have created a Google file that has all the students' assessments available at a glance. The students will continue to use Writing about Reading and Benchmark tests for progress monitoring. B. Hoey suggested that the data numbers from the state (DESE) may be falsified but W. C-R countered with the fact that not all data across the district is high so this does not correlate with his argument. Those schools that were low are still struggling and that higher achiever schools are doing better. Lastly, IREADY data did not correlate with PARCC testing. Low I Ready scores was not an accurate data point to the high PARCC scores (no correlation). The leveled rating system also was discussed. The levels are one indicator vs. growth. J. Lang explained holding a school harmless for a year is worse than low level because those students do not get the needed support. They need to wait a few years for support if qualified as level 3 or 4. This is pushing the problem off. W.C-R commented that there is a push for more 2 strands K-8 schools because change for transitions is gradual, consistent and there is continuity. She explained that the Reauthorization Act of No Child Left Behind forces us to assess our students regularly for progress but educational theory does swing from society focus to child focus and often cycles back. J. Lang asked for clarification of Alt. assessments and W. C-R confirmed that all CSA students take an ALT but there is a need for more training for some teachers.
6. **School Safety:** Crossing Guard issues are decreasing. W. C-R reported that a stranger was found in building late at night so there will be a gate installed at gym and doors locked after 15 minutes of afterschool program starting.
7. **Public Participation:** C. Bell asked about clarification of MCAS 2.0 and home support. W. C-R explained that using a computer instead of a touch screen would help students with typing. 2nd grade is targeted for typing instruction. During writing, WAR responses will be typed on computer periodically for practice.
B. Hoey asked C. Baldwin for speed bump out back due to cars driving too fast.
SSC meeting changed from 1/18 to 1/25/2017
J. Lang commented that there is not enough teaching staff to support the new schedule of 260 minutes with all the new schedule stipulations. W. C-R furthered the conversation by explaining that Allied Arts teachers are teaching non- certified areas in middle school to support new schedule. This is a unique problem to K-8 schools where other middle schools have more strands therefore more certified staff. W. is concerned about Allied Arts teacher retention. Jay stated that this arrangement is the best Pyne can do but it's making the best out of bad situation. B. Hoey agreed that LPS needs more certified staff. W. C-R shared that we have one ELL teacher for 110 students and core academic instruction in middle school is being taught by Allied Arts teachers not certified for that subject. The 2 requested tutor positions requested to help alleviate this problem was denied, this year.