

School Council Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2015

Attendees: Ann Shea, Jennifer Swender, Renee Richard, Jackie Mendonsa, Debbie Lee

Shout Outs:

Many thanks to Renee for serving as teacher in-charge whenever the principal is offsite. In this role, Renee's responsibilities include supervision of building activities while the principal is away at mandatory meetings and conferences.

Superintendent Update:

Jennifer Haggerty was offered and has accepted the Superintendent position for Erving Union 28. The search committee voted 9-4 to offer Ms. Haggerty the position. Those who attended the public session noted that there seemed to be two different "strands". Jennifer demonstrated strength's in connection with community and children while the other candidate possessed expertise with curriculum and data driven results.

Regionalization

Regionalization update nights will be scheduled; however there are some discussions that imply that meetings may be pushed out to the Fall.

PARCC

A PARCC Information Night is scheduled for Tuesday after winter break, Feb 24 @ 6:30 in computer lab.

The goal is to share information regarding the test, clarify questions pertaining to scheduling requirements and address anxieties surrounding the new exam. The first week of testing is designed to provide continuity in subject area (3 sessions ELA and 2 sessions Math). The subsequent week flips the tested grades and day of test. Make-up sessions will be held in the afternoon each day. Another goal of the PARCC Information night is to share actions the school intends to take to minimize stress and prepare students and staff. Invitations and flyers will be distributed to reach out to the community/guardians.

Annual SCC Survey

Committee members reviewed the annual survey questions and structure. Several recommendations were made to clarify questions and improve the format. Some changes include:

1. Remove reference to Band/Instrumental Music under "Academics" and move it to "Other School Services".
2. Under "Academics" change Reading and Writing → ELA
3. Change first person reference ("I", "I feel") to third party format for example "*it is easy to contact my child's teacher*"

4. Need to investigate the possibility of using conditional “logic” that allows respondent to answer academic questions for each child they are responding for.
5. Wording change “The RoadTown gives me information that I”
6. Change format for determining what source of information is used and accessed.
 - a. Create a Communication source category that includes:
 - i. RoadTown
 - ii. Handbook
 - iii. Website
 - iv. Teacher websites
 - v. School calendar
7. Change “I feel I know what is happening school-wide at SES” → “Families are informed and parent needs/concerns receive timely responses.”
8. School-wide events are clearly communicated.
9. Combine “volunteer and welcome” questions → “I feel welcome to attend and participate in SES activities”
10. Students at SES spend time in various non-academic settings (for example: afterschool, instrumental music, bus, lunch, recess). Please comment on your experience within these areas.
11. Remove “what do you want the new principal to know”.

This year’s goal is to open the survey data collection period during conference time (first two weeks of April). SES will provide computer access to anyone who would like to respond to the annual survey.

SIP

The Council will begin work to identify new 2015-16 SIP goals. Several instructional initiatives are already in progress including:

1. Revamp and realign K-2 Literacy curriculum
2. Interventions RTI (response to intervention). The goal is to establish school-wide rules and expectations universally and for it to be known in a positive way. The first example, “model scholar” in the hallway. A “line fairy” model watches to catch and highlight positive behavior.
3. Continue work in Common Core.
4. Perhaps for next year: work to align the science and social studies curriculum while maintaining a positive and balanced culture.

Future Agenda Item

Examine the current grade 5/6 group and seek multiple sources of feedback regarding combined grouping vs. single grade group. Invite teachers and parents/guardians of incoming 5/6 students to offer feedback. Flyers and notice details to follow.