

SIT Meeting — November 5, 2015

Members present: Sandra Smith, Mandy Williamson, Kathleen Morgan, Casey Conard, Lee Messer, Carol Clarke, Nicole Revis, Kristin Buff, Rosemary Rogers, and Sarah Souderes.

Items of Discussion:

Thanksgiving Lunch for Families/Students

- Because of the large number of families that attended last year's Thanksgiving lunch in the cafeteria, Sandra has separated out the lunch by grade levels. A note should go home on Monday.
 - November 18th - 1st, 2nd, and 5th
 - November 19th - PreK, Kindergarten, 3rd, 4th

Male Achievement Gaps

- At our school right now, there is a large achievement gap for males in the area of reading. We brainstormed ideas that could help change this data:
 - Boys Book Club - Casey to look into this
 - Getting local sports people (High School/College) come and read to classes and maybe include them at a Leadership Celebration
 - Adult male role models could be used to mentor boys
 - Book Buddies: Older students who loves reading can be paired up with younger students and read one-on-one with them
 - Boys Club coached by a male role model
 - Highlighting boy-centered magazines in the Library
 - Staff awareness and action when needed
 - Buy books (series books, superheros, non-fiction) appealing to boys in the Library and the classroom
 - Author visits - Carol to ask Allison at Blue Ridge Books and News to get more authors to visit and talk to grade levels.

STEM Night

- The Steering Group (Becky, Heather, and Ann) has met and wants to share the following:
 - Ann talked with Ron Moss and Junaluska Elementary (had a STEM night last year) to get their ideas and suggestions

- We have looked at the Duke Energy STEM Education website and numerous school websites in NC that have held STEM Nights
- We propose to have our first STEM Night on one night (not two) because, after doing this research, it really does make the most sense for us: time, materials, human resources, better serves parents with students in both K-2 and 3-5 (coming one night, not two).
- We would like to have it on March 29, 2016. SIT approved this date.
- Think about who on your grade level would like to be on this planning committee.

Universal Breakfast

- **Our Concerns:**
 - Kids aren't eating much of what they get and then are taking home loads of food.
 - Most of the food is highly processed.
 - Are we being dishonest not marking those who don't eat?
- Nicole is going to talk to Sandra about our concerns.
- Nicole is going to create a Google doc where SIT members will include other concerns they have gathered from their team. If you have any, please share them with your SIT rep.
- Allison Francis is the person who would make a decision about these issues at our school. Mrs. Rogers said she would be glad to talk to her.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please DON'T send home the breakfast biscuits at the end of the day- these need to be refrigerated!

Duty Schedule

- We talked about the duty schedule and the concerns of having so many duties this year.
- Sidenote: We are down 9 TA's to cover duties. This is one of the reasons why we have more duties this year.
- Nicole to ask is going to ask Wendy about possibly creating a rotating bus riding schedule so staff won't be riding the bus so much. This would mean that there would be days without staff riding a bus. This would occur on random days so students wouldn't expect a pattern.
- Nicole and Wendy will also look into consolidating our 2nd load bus riders to the original buses. This would eliminate the duty of 2nd load bus.

Swap Time

- You can have a maximum of three swap days that were worked over the summer. Please fill out a form in Teresa's office and keep it on file in the payroll binder. Give to Mrs. Rogers when you want to cash it in.
- Here are the options if you worked one:
 - Empowerment Day
 - SIT Meeting
 - Worked a day in your classroom
 - Grade Level planning day

Cafeteria Issue

- Students aren't wringing out the cleaning rags so there is water all over the table and floors.
- Option: If this works for your grade level, have the teacher use cleaner and wipe the table and have two students sweep the floor. Nicole to get a spray bottle cleaner from Sandra.

Painting Questions

- We are getting our walls painted! Once the new Maintenance person is hired (at the next Board meeting), a schedule will go out to see when the rest of our school will be painted. SIT will be looking at the colors. The colors on the table are: khaki on the bottom and cream on the top (this is for the hallway).

IMPORTANT: If you have State Health Insurance, even if you aren't changing anything, you need to go online BY NOVEMBER 18th and take action. Please see emails that were sent over the last few weeks from Jason Heinz if you need more information.

Notes submitted by Carol A. Clarke

NEXT MEETING: December 3, 2015