

USD 322 K-12 Site Council
Minutes of September 2, 2009 -- 6:30 p.m.
USD 322 Library

The USD #322 K-12 Site Council met Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the USD #322 School Library. Site Council President, Michele Reisinger, called the meeting to order. Members present included Sheri Bartel, Debbie Berges, Jeanette Eisenbarth, Robin Kolterman, Dan Peters, and Principal Sandra Zahn,

Minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS;

The slate of officers for the 2009-2010 was confirmed with Dan Peterson as President; Roy Duer as Vice-President, and Debbie Berges as secretary. The membership of the Council was reviewed. Michele will contact Dr. Marten concerning the placement of a Board of Education member on the Council; Sheri will contact the teachers for another representative; and Mrs. Zahn will include an appeal for parent representatives in one of her parent letters.

OGS/OMS Administrative Report:

Several items of interest were brought up by Mrs. Zahn. Five staff members have been training in CPI -- Crisis Prevention Intervention as part of the on-going QPA process. Staff members have been trained on the AED defibrillator as part of the updated staff CPR training.

Grades K through 8 are being encouraged to attend President Obama's televised address to the school children of our country on September 8 at noon. This provides an opportunity to teach respect for the position of the presidency of the United States regardless of whether one agrees with his policies.

The Parent Teacher Organization is getting ready to kick-off their large fund-raiser with the students which will be September 16 at 3:00 in the multi-purpose room.

The first days of school have been spent reviewing procedures for effective management of classrooms, hallways, lunchroom, and playground. A new procedure for monitoring lunchroom noise is in effect.

Site Council was asked for their input on how to best handling notifying parents when their child is ineligible or on a warning week in grades 6 through 8. Currently parents are sent a letter in the mail notifying them of ineligibility; however, this adds up to quite an expense by the end of the year. Other options presented by Council members included phone calls or using Textcaster. Power school can always be accessed by parents. Post cards are sent to parents with students receiving an outstanding recognition from a teacher.

A general discussion was held on how to motivate students who are receiving failing grades. Dan informed the Council of some programs available through the Lions Club that teach respect, leadership, and goal-setting. He also mentioned the possibility of a community-based type of big brothers big sisters program where community members would come to the school to eat lunch with students needing encouragement to succeed in school.

High school enrollment for 2009-2010 dropped by one student whereas K-8 enrollment rose by fifteen students.

Discussion was held concerning the intensive block at the high school level. Questions were brought up concerning how the scheduling of classes was determined; whether the rigor of classes are as intense in the block schedule, how fewer student-contact days was going to affect covering all the material, etc. Mrs. Zahn mentioned that she is having her teachers look at the instructional minutes to make sure the school day is being used to maximum efficiently to meet curriculum standards. Robin expressed concern over the lack of vocational exploratory classes. The feeling is that there is a good solid core curriculum as well as many offerings of college-credit courses.

It was suggested that these issues concerning the high school curriculum could be addressed in the upcoming Board of Education goal-setting meeting on September 21.

Michele reported that at the last BOE meeting the BOE reviewed upcoming budget recommendations and personnel for the upcoming school year. Patron input was regarding transportation issues and bus services for children with exceptional needs in the district.

NEW BUSINESS:

As incoming president of the Council, Dan would like for the administration and Board of Education members to inform the Site Council of concerns they have that the Site Council members could help them work on. He sees the Site Council as a tool to help the school.

Robin informed the Council that the Body Venture will be at Onaga Elementary on January 26 for grades K-5. Dr. Marten will be contacted concerning inviting other schools to attend. Volunteers will be needed on January 25 to set up the Venture as well as take it down at the end of the day on January 26. Funding of the Body Venture was discussed.

Red Ribbon Week was briefly discussed. Anyone with an idea of a good speaker needs to contact Debbie.

The next meeting will be November 4 at 6:30 p.m.