

NCS Site Council Minutes March 8, 2016, 4:00 pm at NCS, Lee Lohr's Classroom

Welcome: Spring Break Plans? The following site council members were in attendance: Leigh Schmidt, Jennifer Bradley, Jennifer Klawiter, Jim Ruder, Kim Wroblewski, Abby Jakowski, Tiffany Minter, and Robin Kling. Non-voting 501c3 Representatives: Susan Christiansen. Not in attendance: Katie Kohl, Brandi Mueller, and Sarah Gaskell. Non-voting 501c3 Representative: Charyn Grandau

501c3 Report: Susan reported that Brett, Susan, and Jim met last night. Among other topics covered in this agenda and discussions, goal setting, budgeting and marketing also took place. 501c3 would like to see STEM, school goals, and budgeting interact and drive each other more.

STEM AND Personalized Learning- Architect Arlan Kay has completed a visit with each class and now Josh Johnson is making rounds to each class. The Keva Maple blocks are being shared. Simm City and neighborhood architecture and building use walking field trips have also been used with many classes. We are going to the Monona Terrace to set up Terrace Town on Thursday, April 21, for lunch and the afternoon. The show is on Sat., April 23. Sue Austen would like to attend a LEGO Robotics WeDo 2.0 workshop in Whitewater on May 13. (\$75 fee) Motion passed.

Staffing -

Leigh and Sarah will head up efforts to honor Sandee.

We have been delayed in posting the K/1 position and the I/A position because the FTE budget has yet to be released. We expect little change for NCS next year. The District is waiting to review final bids on the Health Insurance Plan due on April 1. We expect to post soon after that.

Round 1 Director Interviews will take place March 14 and 15th (3:00-7:00 pm) Round 2 interviews are scheduled for March 23 and March 24. Board action is expected April 18. Three site council members will also be a part of the team: Katie Kohl, Susan Christiansen, and Brett Polglaze. Six candidates have been selected for the first round.

A discussion of how we will post the I/A position resulted in a recommendation to:

- A. Post as an Integrated Arts position at 55% with the expectations to work portions of 3 days.
- B. Post Music and Art separately with each working 29% (Two mornings a week each)

If we can swing the slight FTE adjustment, we will post separately and leave the door open to combine the position if the right candidate is found. We would likely schedule art 2 mornings a week, music 2 mornings a week, and PE two mornings a week, each 30 minutes long. We will ask VAIS about how they have covered specials.

The elementary schools are giving up the 6 day specials schedule and a committee has recommended a 5 day schedule with 4 "Give Back Days" to balance the number of Mondays and Fridays with Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays over the course of the year.

After-School Programing.

	Fall Oct. 12- Nov. 30	Winter Jan. 4- Mar 7	Spring Mar.14- May16
STEM	Scott- Inv. Spec.- 20 Heidi's Room	Tess Wirth -Recycled Racers-21 I/A room	Tara- Sun/Moon-21
Club	Chess with Abby- 21 Library	Cursive- Charyn-24 Library	Bricks for Kidz-23 Library
Homework	Tara/Sue- 4 K/1 room	Jennifer- 3 Jennifer's room	Scott- 4

Charyn was not able to lead the last session. Deb Pleuss stepped in again. Three other steady parent volunteers also assisted. This was a difficult topic to sustain for the 8 weeks.

Jennifer reports that Homework Club went well with 3 students. She considers a 4:1 ratio to be about tops for an effective experience. It seems really valuable to have one of her own students.

Tess feels great about how the Recycled Racer finished with some fun races yesterday. Girls on the Run starts March 21 and Jennifer's group at this time has 7 NCS girls and 3 SC girls. Shelby Deering will be assisting Jennifer along with Tara Schneider on Wednesdays.

Enrollment- We currently have 122 students enrolled. We have repeated our request for 126 student enrollment for 2016-2017 with one possible Open Enrollment student for 4th grade and one for 1st grade because of the possible need of current students moving out of the District.

We have 39 students applying for the 19 K slots we will open for the fall. Last year we had to initially place 4 students on the wait list and eventually opened it up to all who applied. It looks like we will not be able to accommodate all applicants this year. We also had 3 first grade applicants for 0 slots currently available, 3 second grade applicants for 4 slots available, 0 applicants for 2 third grade slots, 1 applicant for 0 fourth grade slots, and 0 applicants for 2 fifth grade slots. The lottery drawing is scheduled for March 15 at 10:00 am.

WI Forward- will not be timed. It will not be adaptive (sensitive in difficulty). For the 4th grade level it is expected to take just over 8 hours total and between 4 and 5 hours for 3rd and 5th grade. We will be able to use iPads. We are scheduling for mid April into early May.

Cave of the Mounds- on Feb. 19 was a great trip for K/1. We had a lot of parent volunteers. Some of the content was a bit deep for K/1, but they really enjoyed the tour and the sand sifting to find rocks activity. This may be an even better trip for grades 2/3 in the future.

Parent Teacher Conference Evening Meals- Feb 18-Abby headed up sign ups. Feb 23-Sarah arranged for Chipotle. Both were very well received and appreciated.

Diversity and Equity Committee- We are hosting an Irish Dance group, Cashel Dennehy Irish Dancers, on Friday, March 11 at 12:30 pm. The Diversity and Equity Committee is arranging an Autism Event on **April 8 from** 10:40- 11:25 am (4/5), 12:40-1:30 pm (2/3), and 1:30-2:00 pm (K/1) in the STEP room. ACT (Achieving Collaborative Treatment, 200 Enterprise St., Verona) will head up discussions. **May 17 at 7:00 pm** at the PAC, we will host Dr. Erin Winkler's presentation on "Children are not Color Blind-Talking with Children about Race" and cost would be \$350. Her speaking fee is \$600 plus mileage from Milwaukee which will be another \$100. Dr. Winkler is a professor at UW Milwaukee. We propose to use Marketing-budgeted money and will split the original cost with the Verona 4K program. A **May 13** student activity on Social Justice planning is also underway. Should we be considering the High School MSAN group as resources to lead discussions?

VASD School Board Report- The School Board had the 2nd reading of the Site Council Policy change last night. We expect more budgetary FTE control by Central Office. It may benefit NCS, as the Board hopes to provide more equitable services in time for services, such as Learning Resource Support, Counseling, Technology Coordination, etc. We are still waiting for our FTE budget estimates from Central Office. They expect to receive final bids for health insurance on April 1. Most teacher postings for next year will be delayed until after that. The Board adopted the Equity Framework in the fall and staff are being introduced to it by Central Office staff this month. Site Councils will be next. The Framework is posted on the District website and Jim also provided a paper copy of the Framework and discussion points as a preview.

2015-2016 Goal Review and Reflection:

1. Students will demonstrate appropriate behavior as evidenced by a 25% decrease in the rate of Behavior Office Referrals, when comparing 2015-2016 with 2014-2015. (As of March 8, we have had less than half of the behavior

office referrals this year compared with last year. Second Step lessons led by Charlene and Stacie have been part of the solution along with efforts listed below. There was discussion to have even more emphasis on anti-bullying efforts.)

* NCS teachers and staff not already trained in Nurtured Heart will complete the basic 6 hour class with District Trainers to lay a foundation for incorporating the Nurtured Heart Approach into our PBIS efforts by mid October.

* We will renew our efforts to focus on the Tier I, PBIS school-wide expectations and positive acknowledgements and celebrations.

* Tier II, Check in- Check out will be implemented with fidelity for 5-10% of students, as needed.

* At least Weekly Cool Tool reviews will be presented by both teachers and the Director.

* A list of logical responses to major behavioral offenses will be shared with learners, families, and staff.

* A "Think About It" sheet to promote learner reflection and active involvement in the problem solving process will be continued to be used with a Restorative Practice Approach.

* A "Learning Pledge" to be signed by parents, staff and students and returned by the end of September.

* Each learner's family will receive a "Good News" phone call by the Director during the course of the school year.

* A growing number of NCS staff will participate in the Beyond Diversity Training offered by the District so that at least 50% of the staff will have participated by the end of the school year. (This has been deferred to summer training with another sponsoring company.)

* NCS learners and staff will continue to have whole school gatherings at least on a monthly basis to celebrate successes and promote future positive behavior.

* A Student Council will meet with the Director at least monthly. The Council will be comprised of two students from each classroom in grades 2-5.

2. NCS learners will continue to demonstrate growth in Math skills as measured by MAP scores indicating all students will meet or exceed projected growth comparing spring to spring scores for 4/5 grade students. Grade 3 students will be measured for growth rate from fall to spring. All students will demonstrate High Growth and High Achievement (above 50 Conditional Growth Percentile and 50 Achievement Percentile) in the spring. All K-2 students will reach respective benchmarks on the Spring Math Screener.

(Winter MAP Results: Math 16/22 3rd graders, 15/17 4th graders, and 18/23 5th graders scored above 50 Percentile)

A. NCS will implement the newly updated Everyday Math program.

* NCS teachers will participate in an orientation to the updated Everyday Math program.

* Learners will be given opportunities to utilize new technology components of the Everyday Math program, Dreambox, and/or Wowzers Math, or other digital math options.

B. Personalized Learning- NCS teachers will further prepare for full implementation of Personalized Learning Strategies in the 2018-2019 school year.

* A growing number of NCS staff will participate in the 5W's class, Intro to Verona PLP class, and the Epiphany Learning class offered by the District so that 75% of the staff will have participated in the 5W's and Intro to the Verona PLP class by the end of the school year.

* A Personalized Learning goal will be developed for each learner and discussed with their family.

* Teachers will convene collaborative teams to share strategies and plan lessons sensitive to Personalized Learning.

C. NCS learners will continue to participate in STEM learning opportunities within the classroom and during an afterschool enrichment program. A one hour After-School Homework Club will be offered once a week for 24 weeks.

3. NCS learners will continue to demonstrate growth in Reading skills as measured by MAP scores indicating all students will meet or exceed projected growth when comparing spring to spring scores for 4/5 grade students. Grade 3 students will be measured for growth rate from fall to spring. All students will demonstrate High Growth and High Achievement (above 50 Conditional Growth Percentile and 50 Achievement Percentile). K-2 students will demonstrate growth rate in Reading Skills by comparing fall and spring PALS and Fountas and Pinnell. All K-2 students will reach PALS spring benchmark.

(Winter MAP results: Reading 18/22 3rd graders, 12/17 4th graders and 19/23 5th graders scored about 50 Percentile. Discussion also included how Jennifer and K/1 teachers believe Foundations has benefitted all readers, giving basic phonics decoding skills to lower readers and really improving spelling with higher readers.)

A. A NCS Kindergarten and a Second Grade teacher will be trained in Wilson Reading Approach and implement the Foundations Program with fidelity. All classroom teachers will continue to devote a daily 90 minute literacy block to advance literacy skills through guided reading groups, read-alouds, silent reading, writing instruction and writer's workshops, and whole group reading instruction,

B. Personalized Learning- NCS teachers will further prepare for full implementation of Personalized Learning Strategies in the 2018-2019 school year.

* A growing number of NCS staff will participate in the 5W's class, Intro to Verona PLP class, and the Epiphany Learning class offered by the District so that 75% of the staff will have participated in the 5W's and Intro to the Verona PLP class by the end of the school year.

* A Personalized Learning goal will be developed for each learner and discussed with their family.

* Teachers will convene collaborative teams to share strategies and plan lessons sensitive to Personalized Learning.

C. NCS learners will continue to participate in STEM learning opportunities within the classroom and during an afterschool enrichment program. A one hour After-School Homework club will be offered once a week for 24 weeks.

Social/ School Climate Efforts:

Spring Dance: March 4th from 6:30-8:00 pm. What a great time! Andy Larson set up his equipment and Tim Schmidt DJ'ed. Larry's class shared different light shows they created with Skcratch. Leigh organized the 5th grade Bazaar and raised just over \$300 for the 5th grade party/t-shirts. We might opt not to have flour filled balloons as an item next year. Three of them burst on the dance floor. It was a good call not to have any snacks.

Car Wash: Laurie Tracy said she would organize this again for the spring. A date has not yet been set.

Year Book: Laurie Tracy is again taking on the big task of designing the NCS Year Book.

Parent Socials? The question was raised if we should host parent socials for different themes or topics perhaps to include Trivia Night, parenting skills/anti-bullying, music sharing, etc.

Fundraising Report:

- **Box Tops for Education** - \$500; used for whiteboard paint on writing surfaces. (money expected by end of April but could take longer)
- **Badger Gymnastics and Bake Sale Fundraiser** - \$266
- **Target REDcard**
 - February check: \$1,447.40
 - We will receive a final check in May for any proceeds from Feb. - May.
 - *Note: Target will also provide one-time grants to participating schools when the program ends. I expect the check will be around \$700.*

Upcoming Fundraisers

- **Butter Braids**
 - Orders due today, amount raised is estimated to be about \$880.
- **Culver's Hospitality Night** - Wednesday, March 16th
- **New Century School Ice Skating Party and Chili Cook Off -- Sunday, April 10**
- **Spring Concert & 50/50 Art Raffle** - Tuesday, May 9
 - This year, instead of raffling off themed baskets, we'll have a 50/50 raffle featuring 3 collaborative art pieces by New Century students
- **AmazonSmile** - \$10.65 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2015.
- **Labels for Education**--no report/activity so far

Fundraisers to Consider:

- Bruce Moore has suggested hosting a Father/Daughter dance fundraiser in May
- Eric Christiansen suggested a Trivia Night Fundraiser for adults only

Potential Agenda Items:

- Continue discussion/working session to set goals for funds raised.
- Raise annual budgets for staff significantly, based on proposed curriculum at each grade level and/or individual classroom to align w/ targeted NCS curriculum goals (TBD)
- Annual Report for NCS?

Account Balance: February balance was \$27,600.65

- Curriculum / School Supplies: \$500
- Fieldtrip: \$500
- Marketing: \$1,000
- STEM: \$4,000 (\$500 per teacher, per year, plus \$1,000 for PD/global purchases). Note that for 2015-16, all of this money would be allocated to the purchase of EveryDay Math – unless the Epic Grant is approved.
- After-School Programming: \$4,000
- Internal events/cultural: \$1,000
- Operating Budget: \$1,500

K/1 benches and shelves- Material has been purchased for \$250.

Announcements:

March 8 Listening Session with Jim Ruder, Director at 6:00 pm.

March 10 Community Gathering 7:45 am

March 11 Spring Pictures in AM.

March 11 Irish Dancers 12:30 pm in SC gym

March 14 Spring After-School Programs begin

March 16 Culver's Night 5:00-8:00 pm

March 21 Girls on the Run Starts

March 24 Butter Braid Pick-up

March 25- April 1 Spring Break

April 8 Autism discussions

April 10 NCS Ice Skating

April 18 No School

April 21 Terrace Town Lunch and PM set up at Monona Terrace

April 23- Saturday showing and take down of Terrace Town

Next NCS Site Council meeting date: Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at 4:00 at NCS.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM