

Welcome: Spring Activities: Share if you like. The following site council members were in attendance: Jim Ruder, Leigh Schmidt, Tonya Benz, Sarah Gaskell, Susan Christiansen, Jennifer Bradley, Brandi Mueller, Abby Jakowski, Jen Krull, Kaitie Smith, Charyn Grandau, Beth Junge, Lee Lohr, Steve Schultz (We need family pictures of Bruce and Brandi for the bulletin board.) Not in attendance: Bruce Moore.

STEM Curriculum/ Personalized Learning -

*The After-school STEM program, Garbage Patch Kids with Lee is three weeks underway. Bussing has been provided with an average of 7-8 riders each week. It has been challenging to prep and supplement as necessary. Abby is going to send out a Sign-up Genius to try to recruit three more parent volunteer slots for each of the five remaining sessions.

* Project Lead the Way and other STEM efforts continue. Grades K/1 purchased Lego Can Do kits. 2/3 purchased some PLTW kits and Makie Makie Picu Boards and possibly some Lego Can Do kits. 4/ 5 completed second round of units switching classes.

* Kaitie Smith met with a representative from Camille Solberg a staffer in Senator Ron Johnson's office to discuss involving underrepresented students in STEM programming. There is a conference call set for Thursday, April 16, at 1:00 pm for further discussion.

*Gardening will begin in May again. Katy Freye is bringing in her roto-tiller to use. Isabel A. shared the Square Foot Gardening idea. Many teachers have plans in place for what they envisioned this year already. Isabel also has ideas to share about the direction of the rows.

*After-school programming for next year? Kaitie, Sarah, and Jennifer met and proposed: After-school Programs at NCS - Proposal

- In 2015-16, we're proposing to not only expand Staff/Instructor led STEM After-School options at NCS, but also offer Parent led clubs for students to participate in throughout the school year.

STEM programs:

- Offer 4 per year. (2 in fall, 1 winter, and 1 spring)
- 3 would be for 2nd - 5th graders, 1 would be for K - 1st
- Scott Pelton and Jennifer Klawiter have expressed interest in leading fall sessions - I'm also working with Tammy to see if we can utilize student teachers for the Winter/Spring sessions (criteria would be that they would need 1 semester of student teaching under their belt to be an instructor)
- These would be similar to this year - packaged units, about 8 weeks each in length. Depending on when Jennifer would want to lead hers, we would most likely have double-up in fall.
- Discussion included raising the fee from \$15 to \$25 per student next year.

Scholarships still available.

- Recommend that these continue to be Monday afternoons.
- Larry also expressed a "maybe" interest in setting up a more freeform STEM lab - but details and commitment are tentative at this point.

- We will explore other options beyond Camp Invention. It has been pricey and requires a good deal of teacher preparation time and supplemental activity.

Clubs:

- These would be rotating per year and would be parent led. We'd want a minimum of 2 parent leads per club.
- Parent leaders would determine how many sessions and the time of year they would be offered. But it would correspond with STEM offerings (so each would either be 4 or 8 weeks)
- We'd like these to be run either on Wednesday or Thursday right after school (all would be held on the same day).
- We'd offer snacks and bussing.
- Clubs discussed were:
 - Programs (we'd have a club chapter at our school): a Math League (24 or CML), BadgerBots. Girls on the Run may look different with no bussing, held two days per week, and a different set fee.
 - Clubs (homegrown): Nature, Yoga, Chess, Community Helpers, Multi-Cultural, Putting Arts in STEM, Homework Club, Cursive Writing, and Movement Fun with Kids are all possibilities. There may be others - we'd like to survey parents to assess interest in these and also to offer suggestions for more. Perhaps rotating teachers could take on the Homework Club. Club size would ideally be 2:12 ratio of adults to kids. Perhaps a \$10 fee for a four week club (not applied to Homework Club). We talked about Monday as the best day considering it is a short day and bussing could be combined with STEM. Perhaps some Clubs may also include Monday morning.

Next steps:

- NCS Site council enthusiastically supports the concept and appreciates further work by the committee.
- Survey parents to determine parent leads, student interest and other clubs to consider
- Secure funding through the NCS 501c3/other sources

Action items:

- Jen to look into BadgerBots
- Kaitie to look into details around forming a math club that competes at other schools
- Sarah to own Girls on the Run set-up

Site Council and 501c3 Composition and times to meet for next year:

Jim Ruder	both
Leigh Schmidt	Site Council
Tonya Benz	stepping back
Sarah Gaskell	Site Council
Susan Christiansen	either, where needed
Jennifer Bradley	Site Council
Brandi Mueller	Site Council

Abby Jakowski	Site Council
Jen Krull	501c3 (treasurer)
Kaitie Smith	501c3
Charyn Grandau	501c3
Beth Junge	moving on
Lee Lohr	stepping back
Steve Schultz	501c3
Bruce Moore	?

We discussed moving times to possibly draw in more interest of others joining Site Council or periodically attending meetings. It was recognized that there are other ways in which parents could become involved and that shifting the meeting time still would not work for some. Consensus was to leave the meeting time of 4:00-6:00 pm in place for Site Council. 501c3 is also expected to meet monthly with perhaps a different time and location.

MARKETING UPDATE:

- * Discussion on “Discover. Empower. Grow.” as a by-line under logo was discussed and approved.
- *We have scheduled and sent invitations to a K Orientation Evening on Thursday, May 21, at 6:30 pm.
- * Jim has asked his father-in-law to paint three 4 x 4 signs with the NCS logo. If they turn out well, we may be able to avoid the costs of commercially made signs.
- *Marketing Committee will meet within the month to discuss strategies more and talk about David’s suggestions and to respond to some of the survey findings.

SCHOOL CLIMATE/WELLNESS

- * **Survey- Update** - Results have been emailed to Site Council members; paper copies will be provided. A brief discussion of how positive the results were with a relatively strong response rate. Further reflection included: Marketing committee will review and respond to some of the feedback, such as some people unsure of what Nurtured Heart is. Susan shared a 1-page article by Gail Anderson which will be shared with families.
- ***Badger Assessment-** Teachers are scheduled to provide a practice test session before the real window opens on March 31 and tentatively scheduled to administer the test to each 3rd-5th grade NCS student April 15-24, approximately one hour per each of the 6 days. We will use the computer lab and our Chromebooks. We will share our Chromebooks with SC during the test window.
- ***Lilada Gee**, consultant with VASD, will lead a discussion about how we best serve students who are black with our staff on May 14 after school. Charyn and Leigh expressed interest in also attending.

NCS Ice Skating Fundraiser at Verona Ice Arena took place Sunday, March 29th, from 1-2:30 pm (that is ice time). We had the mezzanine from 12:30-3:00 pm. It is a private event for \$180. A chili cook-off was part of the menu. The turn-out was great with about twice the attendance as last year, producing a profit of \$680. There was a suggestion of having snacks instead of the chili, but the chili went over big as well. \$212 was received in donations for the chili.

Field Day: Abby will head up efforts again. She will design a rotation of groups again between hiking, fishing, and games.

Spring Walk or Ride to School Day- June 9. Sarah will bring in prizes for drawings that day.

Help Bonnie in setting up Art Show- Abby and Leigh will be in touch with Bonnie.

Mississippi River Museum Trip is scheduled for Wed. May 6 (day following Spring Concert and Art Show). The permission slip letter explains that there won't be room on the busses for adult chaperones. There has been a strong response.

Diversity and Equity Committee- The committee is exploring having a speaker on Down Syndrome to come in on some Friday in May. We hope to hear receive confirmation this week. We may have three grade level presentations. The South American Journey will take place on the afternoon of Friday, May 22, with multi-age groups rotating to stations. We meet again on April 22.

Referendum Results- passed; next steps to purchase land will be pursued by board.

6-Day Special Rotation Survey Results- overall votes favored keeping a 5-day schedule. Neighborhood school principals have yet to meet to consider next options.

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences in August Teachers will devote one day to meeting with new families to get to know students' hopes, interests, dreams, etc. As a result we expect to establish class lists by June and schedule conferences before school is out.

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8. Abby will coordinate efforts through Sign-up Genius to provide lunches on Mon., Tues., Thur., and Fri and supper on Tues.

Dates For Summer Play dates: Tuesday, July 21, Wed., August 12, Thursday, August 27 6:00-7:00 PM. No popsicles this year. Culver's Scoop cards were discussed.

No Food Treat Policy- We talked briefly about designating one day for food treats, maybe the Valentine's Day Party. This would allow diet sensitive families a heads up of when that day is coming, rather than throughout the year with birthday treats. At the same time, it would allow for other families to carry on a tradition of sending in a snack/treat. We will pick up discussion in May.

Staffing

FTE budget was determined to be the same for 2015-2016. Our current FTE breaks down as follows. Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to use the following plan:

Position	2014-2015 FTE	2015-2016 FTE with detail
Administrator	0.80	0.80 18 hours/week
Classroom Teachers	6.00	6.00 37.5 hours/week
Integrated Arts (Music/Art)	0.55	0.55 (20.62 hours/week)
PE	0.29	0.29 Shared Service
Secretary	0.73	0.73 One 30 hours/wk One 10 hours/wk
Ed. Assistant	0.66	0.66 Two at 18 hours/wk
LMC	0.10	0.10 Shared Service
LMC Assistant	0.03	0.03 Shared Service
Ed. Tech.	0.08	0.08 Shared Service
Ed. Tech. Assist.	0.08	0.08 Shared Service
Site Council	0.04	0.04 Ed. Leadership
Operations	0.08 (.02 continuing from fundraising)	0.08 (.02 continuing from fundraising)
Total	9.44	9.44

* We will have to be posting for the I/A position this spring because it has been a 55% position and the one 18 hour EA position because it was a late August hire. This will likely require 2 half days of interviews. Volunteers to serve on that hiring committee included: Leigh and Abby. Susan, Brandi, and Tonya are also interested depending on the timing and need for them.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS:

Account Balance: Jen summarized that we have \$9,400.

Requests:

Possible EveryDay Math update. Teachers are looking at sample materials now. The full package replacement would be \$9,171.05/partial package \$4,930.86

Butter Braids- Orders were due March 16 and delivery was March 31. Participation netted \$635 profit!

Spring Concert Baskets- YES. Brandi will head this up with the help of others. Letters are out to families to send in donations. Some have arrived and are being collected.

Box Top Coordinator for next year will be Melissa Albright and Elizabeth Zgraggen the following year.

Announcements:

April 14-24, 6 days of Badger Assessment for 3, 4, 5 grades, one hour of testing each day.

April 16 Statewide tornado drill

April 22 Earth Day

April 22 4/5 Field Trip to State Capitol 9:30-11:30 am.

May ? Down Syndrome Grade Level Presentations (date is being confirmed with presenter)

May 5 extended Staff Meeting to discuss STEM, supper provided.

May 5 Spring Concert/Art Show/Basket Raffle (6:00 Raffle & Art show, 6:30 Spring Concert)

May 6 Whole School Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium field trip

May 12 K-3 Field Trip to Overture Center for Symphony Soup 9:20-11:30 am

May 14 4/5 Field Trip to Overture Center for Link-up Concert 11:20 am-1:30 pm

May 14 2:50 pm Staff meeting with Lilada Gee, consultant on race

May 20 1:30-2:15 pm 5th Grade History Play

May 21 Welcome to Kindergarten Evening 6:30 pm & 12:45-1:30 pm 5th grade History Play

May 22 South American Journey school-wide afternoon program.

May 25- No School- Memorial Day

June 2 4/5 Canoeing trip for 4/5 classes

June 4 5:45 pm 5th grade Graduation/6:30 pm NCS Family Ice Cream social

June 5- 5th Grade evening party at school.

June 9- Walk/Ride Bike to School Day.

June 10- School-Wide Goodman Center Field Day (last full day of school)

June 11- Dismissal at 12:20 pm

Next NCS Site Council meeting date: Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at 4:00 pm at NCS.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.