

Welcome: Summer highlights? The following site council members were in attendance: Jim Ruder, Leigh Schmidt, Jennifer Bradley, Abby Jakowski, Brandi Mueller, and Non-voting 501c3 Representative, Charyn Grandau. Not in attendance: Susan Christiansen, Sarah Gaskell, Bruce Moore, and Jennifer Klawiter.

501c3 Report from Charyn - Brett Polglaze is taking over as Treasurer. Steve Schultz has agreed to serve as Secretary. Jen Krull and Kaitie Smith have resigned with each moving out of the District. Best wishes and THANKS to Jen and Kaitie and her family. We will send flowers of appreciation with a card through Brandi. A Grant Writing committee will be formed. We will inventory our STEM materials. 501c3 has requested a 5-year implementation plan for STEM.

STEM Curriculum/ Personalized Learning -

*Kaitie met with Jim and Tammy to review necessary paperwork to complete as an obligation to the DPI STEM grant. It is due on Sept. 30.

*After-School Programming. Jennifer Bradley will chair and Brandi will be among others who help serve on the committee. Two teachers, Scott Pelton and Tara Schneider have each expressed interest in leading 8 week STEM courses. We would like to have one more. We also need to sort out what clubs run by parent volunteers will be offered and coordinate a weekly Homework Club if that is going to happen.

*Thanks to all those to put in time and effort tending the garden this summer!

MARKETING UPDATE:

* **Enrollment-** We are at our cap of 126 students, with 21 students in Lee's, Heidi's, Larry's and Sue's rooms. There are 22 students in Jennifer's and 20 in Tara's. There is one 1st grade student who has not completed the Info-snap registration and we suspect they may have moved.

* **School Mission Update** - Jim shared ideas for possibly updating our NCS Mission statement. Charyn had forwarded and shared suggested edits. We will share the edited version with teachers and revisit in Sept.

* **By-law Adjustments** - Leigh, Abby and Jim shared ideas of how to tweak the Site Council by-laws to make them reflect current practices. Consensus was reached on edits. See attached.

Marketing Committee - Shari Ferolie offered to join Leigh and Abby with these efforts. Stephanie Leuer and Susan Christiansen will continue to update Facebook and other possible social media. The School Board and Kelly K. may have some direction for these efforts.

SCHOOL CLIMATE/WELLNESS

Diversity and Equity Committee - Will meet again Wed. Sept. 9 at 6:30 pm. Anyone is welcome to join. Scott Pelton is expected to join the committee as a teacher. Scott and Jim attended a 4-day training on Restorative Practices over the summer.

Nurtured Heart - Jennifer Klawiter attended a week-long training for trainers this summer in Minneapolis.

School Board Action Over the Summer. A district level committee has been formed over the summer to study behavior response and prevention practices. We might expect district-wide protocol or expectations to be created. We expect Nurtured Heart Approach, PBIS, and Restorative Practices all to play a part in the plan. We will await more details. The Board also relaxed full implementation of Personalized Learning by a couple of years. The original target was fall of 2016, now it is 2018. Work will continue.

Field Day - Abby did another great job. We are on the books for the Goodman Center for next year. Abby reported she is game to head that up next spring as well.

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences in August Teachers devoted time on Aug. 17 and 18th to meeting with new families to get to know students and their hopes, interests, dreams, etc. A few members expressed their conferences were beneficial; some with children already pretty familiar wondered if it was necessary. We will receive survey results.

Summer Play Dates: Tuesday July 21, and Wed., August 12, had good attendance. We expect a big turn out Thursday August 27, 6:00-7:00 pm.

Six Day Schedule Tammy has made extra efforts to communicate what day it is of the cycle and if classes have swim or library on a given day through a google calendar and our web page. A reminder is that NCS students will benefit from PE being scheduled 3/6 days. We maintained the minutes of Integrated Arts instructional time, and we won't miss any days due to no school on Friday.

NCS Behavior Data - Jim shared graphs which compare the last two years of behavior data at New Century. Reflections included: encouraged by overall decline in numbers, decline in number of playground incidents, decline in average per day over the year. Areas of concern continue to be higher proportion of black students and special education students involved in incidents; overall number is still too high.

Review Goals for the 2014-2015 Year:

On the whole, both of the two goals were met. Jim needs to shore up Good News calls and has a plan to get more help from staff to nominate students in a more concrete way. We shifted our focus away from the Walker Approach with taking on STEM emphasis and taking a broader look at Personalized Learning.

- 1. Students will demonstrate appropriate behavior as evidenced by a 25% decrease in the rate of Behavior Office Referrals, when comparing 2014-2015 with 2013-2014.**

* NCS teachers and staff 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.

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

* NCS staff will participate in a self-assessment survey designed to measure the fidelity of PBIS implementation in the spring to help direct future efforts.

* A list of logical responses to major behavioral offenses will be created and 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 developed and implemented by the end of September.

* A "Learning Pledge" to be signed by parents and students will be created and shared by the end of September with learners, families and staff.

- * 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.
- * NCS learners and staff will have whole-school gatherings at least on a monthly basis to celebrate successes and promote future positive behavior.
- * A Student Council will be formed to meet with the Director at least monthly. The Council will be comprised of 2 students from each classroom in grades 2-5.

2. NCS learners will continue to demonstrate growth in literacy skills as measured by at least 75% of 4th and 5th grade learners showing at least anticipated growth rate for reading skills based on Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) comparing spring to spring performance. At least 75% of K-3 students will demonstrate growth rate in Fountas and Pinnell as determined by Personalized Learning Goal Setting Plans.

- A. Personalized Learning - NCS teachers will further prepare for full implementation of Personalized Learning Strategies in the 2016-2017 school year.
- *Walker Learning Approach (WLA) will be reviewed and critiqued by all teachers during the fall semester by completing a book study of the WLA Engagement Matters or Play Matters. Selected aspects of the WLA will be piloted with students during the spring semester.
 - * A growing number of NCS staff will participate in the 5Ws class and 6 Steps class offered by the District so that 75% of the staff will have participated by the end of the school year.
 - * A NCS teacher and Director will be trained in the Wilson Approach and share strategies with colleagues.
 - * 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 at least once a week.

- B. NCS learners will continue to participate in at least four learning opportunities with an environmental emphasis over the course of the school year.
- * Learners will participate in at least two Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) project activities each semester, one of which will be related to environmental studies.
 - * An after-school enrichment STEM program will be developed and offered during the school year utilizing grant resources.
 - * Learners will continue to utilize studies of Badger Mill Creek, the Verona Area School District prairie and school forest, our school garden, and visits to other local community gardens and ponds to enrich environmental knowledge and skills.

Ideas for 2015-2016 Year: Continue with Behavior efforts including PBIS, Nurtured Heart, and Restorative Practices. Focus on Math with the implementation of the updated Everyday Math; with only 53.8% of 5th grade math students meeting/exceeding expected growth.

Staffing

*We are really excited to have Carol Szymanski, I/A Teacher; Tara Schneider, K/1 Teacher, and Martha Tenney, SEA, joining our school community this fall. We are equally pleased to have other staff members return including Kate Peterson, SEA who transferred temporarily to Stoner Prairie in the spring semester.

Building Projects - The boiler project is nearly complete. The double sink in Mr. Lohr's room has been removed (at Mr. Lohr's repeated request). We inherited some hallway cubbies which will be used for most of Mrs. Konop's and Mrs. Klawiter's rooms. We sent four of the smaller wooden cubbies to K/1 to give those students more room in their hallway cubbies. Our maintenance crew did a great job cleaning.

Technology - We expect to receive the 42 iPads for 4/5 students to go 1:1 during the third week in September. We will store those iPads in classrooms. The teaching staff will discuss how to store our current 40 iPads currently stored in the office.

Field Trip Committee? Should we have a few parents and teachers work on a schedule of Field Trips to schedule for the school year? Abby volunteered to help.

Fall Festival Committee - An idea was generated to perhaps replace the fall festival with a different fall field trip or movie night in costume. Leigh will look into continuing the fall food drive with the high school.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS:

Susan C. will chair this year.

Account Balance: Expected balance to be around \$7,000. Brett has not yet met with Jen to transfer everything.

* **EveryDay Math** Update was ordered and has been received. Teachers will participate in a webinar on Friday afternoon orientating them to the new features.

Announcements:

August 27 – Play date- 6:00-7:00 PM

Sept. 1- First day of School

Sept.2 - Oct. 23 NCS Swim unit

Sept. 4 - Picture Day

Sept. 17 - Back to School Night

**Next NCS Site Council meeting date: Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2015 4:00 pm at NCS.
Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM**

New Century Elementary School

By Laws of the Site Council

Updated, August 27, 2015

Purpose- The Council reflects the essence of the school's Charter with strong collaboration between parents and staff for shared decision-making in an equitable and democratic manner. The Council shall engage in the meaningful dialogue/discussion to arrive at decisions that promote positive student performance, enhance progress/development, improve the culture of the school and support the mission. NCS enjoys a governance structure that promotes co-sharing of responsibilities between staff and parents. This model provides an opportunity for a unique relationship with the Superintendent and School Board. The Council shall promote the interests of students and the school, keeping the school and community adequately informed about the progress toward achieving meaningful goals. Chairperson of the Council will be the Director who serves in this capacity as an ex-officio, non-voting member. Site Council meetings will reflect pertinent topics of interest, appropriate to the school's mission and operation. Agendas will be created at the end of each meeting, added to between meetings, or noting same at the beginning of each meeting. The Council shall confirm sub-committee membership and provide oversight to their responsibilities and decisions. The Council shall appoint any ad hoc committees.

Membership- The Council shall consist of one staff member and at least eight parent representatives of the NCS population, not to exceed twelve. Site Council vacancies will be publicized and filled no later than the October Meeting. If a member fails to attend two consecutive meetings, the chair will contact that member to determine the rationale of the absence and together re-evaluate continued membership.

Decision Making- Whenever possible decisions will be made by consensus. (Consensus is finding a proposal sufficiently acceptable so that all members can support it; no member opposes it. It is not a unanimous vote, majority vote, or everyone totally satisfied.) If unable to reach consensus, a majority vote will be the mechanism to reach a decision. If unable to reach a decision by voting, the issue will be tabled and placed on another agenda, rejected for failure to reach agreement or remanded to the Director's discretion should implementation be essential to policy or school operations.

Meetings- The organizational meeting will be held in August to discuss by-laws and operational procedure(s). Site Council members may suggest items to the chair or during the agenda building part of the meeting. By-laws will be reviewed at the organizational meetings. Sub-committee chairs will be designated at the organizational meeting. Meetings will generally be held on the Second Tuesday of each month other than July. A quorum (i.e. more than half) must be present in order for the meeting to be official. When a quorum is not present, with less than a majority of staff and/or parents, decisions will be decided by consensus or tabled to the next meeting. Goal assessment/setting shall be completed during the first two meetings of the school year. All Site Council and subcommittee meetings minutes will be recorded. The Chair of each committee is responsible for give a report and submitting minutes at each site council meetings. All minutes will be available to the school community.

General- By laws may not be altered/revised in any meeting except by the mutual consent of a majority in attendance of both parents/staff. Any decision affected by the revision (of the by-law) may not be acted upon until the subsequent meeting unless an emergency develops and there is

approval by everyone in attendance. A change in the by-laws may not conflict with the Mission of the school. Topics discussed at the School Board Meeting will be standard agenda items for Site Council.

New Century School Mission Statement

(current)

New Century School is a nurturing environment in which students, teachers, and families form a partnership for learning. Our mission is to ensure all students acquire 21st century skills- the ability think critically, solve problems, communicate, use technology and be globally competent. We value the uniqueness of each student, and empower students to be active participants in their own learning through student inquiry and integrated curriculum.

New Century School Mission Statement

Revised DRAFT, 2015

At New Century School we provide a nurturing environment where students, teachers, and families form a partnership for learning that ensures every student will be successful. We strive for all students to DISCOVER joy, beauty, wonder, and greatness, as much within themselves and others, as within our natural environment. We help all students GROW in their abilities to think critically, solve problems, communicate, use technology, and be globally competent through high engagement in integrated curricular lessons, including a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. We value the uniqueness of each student. We EMPOWER all students to be active participants in their own learning through student inquiry and personalized learning opportunities.