

NCS Site Council Minutes Feb. 9, 2016, 4:00 pm at NCS in Lee Lohr's Classroom

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

501c3 Report: Charyn reported that Brett would like feedback on the budget and how we should work it next year. Brett asked about doing an outreach to Flint, MI to help with water filter systems for homes. Diversity and Equity may consider picking it up and making it part of the Social Justice option. Step up to Equity through Sustain Dane does workshops we also should consider tapping.

STEM AND Personalized Learning- Larry G., Sue A., and Tara S. participated in the STEM and Personalized Learning related workshop in Oregon, WI on Sat., Feb. 6. The workshop was entitled, "Empowering Passion Driven Student Projects in Redesigned Collaborative Learning Spaces." On the whole, teachers were a bit disappointed in the content of the workshop. Presenters did a quick fly over regarding many different technology options and apps without much opportunity to dig deeper. On another level, it was confirming that we are on the right track with many of our technology efforts.

Terrace Town is kicking in with architects Arlan Kay and Josh Johnson scheduled to meet with each class. Larry is in the midst of a Makey Makey unit and will also have a short unit with Jennifer's class. 4/5's finished a Knee Joint/Brace unit. K/1's have been working on windmills. Jennifer just finished a Forces and Interactions unit.

Staffing - Meng Vang has started his student teaching in Heidi Konop's classroom.

Do we need a small committee to plan a way to honor Sandee? Leigh and Sarah will head up efforts. Jim will pursue posting the K/1 position and scheduling that process.

The timeline to replace Jim includes concluding second interviews before Spring Break. The NCS Director/SC Spec. Ed. Coordinator position was posted on Feb. 1 and has 14 applicants to date. Heidi Konop and Kate Peterson will represent NCS staff. Three site council members will also be a part of the team, Katie Kohl, Susan Christiansen, and, tentatively, Brett Polglaze (Leigh Schmidt will be a back-up.).

After School Programming.

	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 reports that Cursive Club has been a challenge keeping the 5th graders especially engaged. She is likely to introduce some game components and delve into calligraphy. Volunteer helpers have been great.

Jennifer reports that Homework Club is going well with 3 students. She considers a 4:1 ratio to be about tops for an effective experience.

Tess feels great about how the Recycled Racers unit has progressed.

Enrollment- We currently have 122 students enrolled. We have repeated our request for 126 student enrollments 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.

3-5 MAP assessment in Mid Jan. for Math and Reading went well. On the whole, our students are performing strongly and we anticipate a strong showing in the statewide assessment, WI Forward, this spring. 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. We will be able to use iPads.

The Aldo Leopold Nature Center in Monona went great in mid January. Grades 2-5 did snowshoeing. Program leaders were strong. The bus driver proclaimed, after driving three groups of NCS students, that we had the best students in the District!

4/5's attended a **Rosa Parks** performance at the Overture Center today. It was reported to be a productive and enjoyable trip with back stage tours, a visit to the Public Library and a conversation with Sustain Dane, and the musical performance. It was all good.
K/1 classes are going to **Cave of the Mounds** on Feb. 19.

Parent/Teacher Conference Evening Meals? Feb. 18 -Abby will head up sign ups. Feb. 23- Sarah will bring in Chipotle. All were in favor of the Site Council covering the \$250 cost. Leigh will explore the possibility of sponsoring a Monday breakfast for staff periodically.

Diversity and Equity Committee- Planning for spring Autism and Social Justice Programs continues.

Great Kindness Challenge (Jan. 25-29th.) went great! A slide show summarizing kindness efforts will be presented at the Community Gathering tomorrow. A summary of the Coins for Kenya project will also be presented. \$235.40 has been collected. Activities included yarn wrapping the trees in front of school, making courage dots for each classroom, reading the Dot book and many students taking on the challenge of kindness act check list.

VASD School Board Report- The School Board is eyeing up Spring of 2017 for a school building referendum. NCS and Sugar Creek facility needs are expected to be addressed in that referendum as well. Jim met with architects with Todd Brunner earlier today to further expose the needs of our facilities. It seems that several options are being considered. 1. Remodel and expand SC and NCS on current site 2. Rebuild on current site. 3. Vacate and build a new elementary school on the property south of town. 4. Vacate and build a new high school, move Badger Ridge Middle School to the current high school, move charters to K-Wing, and move Sugar Creek to Badger Ridge Middle School. No decisions on top choice have been made. NCS Site Council's goals of expanding to middle school grades have been a part of the conversation as well as gradually expanding to three or four sections each of K/1, 2/3, and 4/5. The NCS committee will work toward drafting a statement to confirm NCS hopes to expand both ways.

The elementary schools are giving up the 6 day specials schedule and formed a committee to explore options. The committee will convene this week and finish by Spring Break.

Marketing and 5 year old Kindergarten Registration Dates and Events:

Thursday, Feb. 11- School Tours 8:30-10:30 am and 6:00-7:00 pm

Tuesday, Feb. 16- School Tours 8:30-10:30 am

Friday, March 4- Charter School Applications Due

Open House Tours have been busy with about 10 families participating in each Open House thus far.

Leigh has coordinated the assistance of 4/5 students. We currently have 18 students applying for the 19 K slots we will open. The District Wide K Information Meeting was cancelled due to weather and not rescheduled. Charter schools took turns manning information booths at the Verona Area Food Pantry and

Boys and Girls Club Food Pantry. These efforts seemed to yield little connection with families with 5 year olds. We did target some 4K sites with diverse student populations with Charter School information. We still need to explore how to draw the attention of diverse student populations. Applications will be due March 4th this year.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS:

Badger Gymnastics for Saturday, February 6th from 3-5 pm. - Attendance was lower than last year's at Gymfinity with 44 children (including 6 non-NCS students). Profit was \$276 with \$140 at admissions and \$136 for bake sale. The upstairs room for the bake sale was not readily accessible to participants. We had a lot of food left over.

Spring Dance- March 4th from 6:30-8:00 pm. The gym is available. This is a social really, not a fundraiser. Andy and Tim will be available to DJ. Leigh will get a flier out to promote 5th graders holding a bazaar to raise money for the 5th grade end of the year party. We will not have snacks at the dance.

Skating Party- Set for April 10 from 1:00-2:30 pm. Abby and Susan will settle on admission cost.

Schoola ? Kim will get some more details and share with Susan and the rest of us. This is a site to reuse/resell kids' clothes and schools receive 40% of the profit. As Kim shared more information about the program, we decided to pass.

Culvers?- No update was available.

Brat Stands at Millers? Leigh reported that she learned VAHS owned the stand and had the schedule filled this spring. We were put on a list to fill in, should an opening occur.

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.

50/50 raffle for May 3 Spring Concert was confirmed to be covered by our raffle license. Susan is in contact with Tess Wirth about how it might work with raffling off some big group art.

Butter Braid Fundraiser - Melissa Albright is coordinating with a pick up planned for just before Spring Break.

Target Check of \$1,447.40 should be arriving soon. We will earn a grant in July roughly equal to half of that.

Silent Auction- Katie Kohl is looking into new auction sites for next year. No recommendation yet.

Girls on the Run- Spring registration starts on Feb. 15. SC is going to offer its own club rather than joining ours. Jennifer has a couple of other volunteer coaches lined up. Should we be looking for an alternative for boys to this?

Razoo as a annual fund donation program is being explored by Susan, more on this later.

Box Tops Collection Campaign collected 5,002 box tops, reaching our goal. Students will help decide how to spend the profit: playground equipment, field trip, supplies, etc.

Account Balance: February balance was: \$27,600.65

- o Curriculum / School Supplies: \$500
 - o Fieldtrip: \$500
 - o Marketing: \$1,000
 - o 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.
 - o After-School Programming: \$4,000
 - o Internal events/cultural: \$1,000
- Operating Budget: \$1,500

Summary of previous requests:

Building Blocks- eight sets have been ordered. Two have been received from Amazon.

Upper Sugar River Watershed Association- \$50 for annual membership has been sent.

Grandma's Rocking Chair has been returned to Jennifer Klawiter's room.

New Requests:

K/1 benches and shelves- Jim would like to build some benches and shelves to be used in K/1 classrooms. Materials may cost about \$300. This idea evolved from the Personal Learning Classroom Space workshop. Motion passed.

Announcements:

Feb 10- Community Gathering, 7:45-8:05 am

Feb. 19- K/1 to Cave of the Mounds

Feb. 18 and 23 NCS Parent-teacher conferences 3:00-7:30 pm

Feb. 26 No School

March 4- NCS School Dance 6:30-8:00 pm

**Next NCS Site Council meeting date: Tuesday, March 8, 2016, at 4:00 pm at NCS.
Meeting adjourned.**