

NCS Site Council Notes January 12, 4:00 at NCS, Lee Lohr's Classroom

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

501c3 Report: Charyn reported we would hope to meet with Dean about the next steps in hiring a Director for next year. Dean reported he would be meeting with Spec. Ed. Director first to shape the position. He would be interested in meeting with NCS reps as early as Feb. 501c3 will be drafting a letter to highlight the most important attributes and qualification for the position. They will seek input from teachers.

STEM AND Personalized Learning: Three teachers have signed up for the STEM and Personalized Learning related workshop in Oregon, WI on Sat., Feb. 6. The workshop is entitled, "Empowering Passion Driven Student Projects in Redesigned Collaborative Learning Spaces." Cost is \$100 to attend. We will reimburse teachers \$100 for attending on Saturday.

Staff continues work to outline STEM curricular efforts in January to help guide STEM material purchases. During discussions and a review of the Next Generation Science Standards it was revealed that each grade level has been working with the Engineering by Design Process, which is part the NGSS K-5. It is likely that will remain as a backbone or umbrella of our STEM efforts.

Our Parent Resource Academic Support links are sadly outdated on our web page. Tammy will be removing the majority of the links this Friday and then rebuilding at teachers' recommendations.

Staffing - We expect to welcome a student teacher, Meng Vang, this second semester to teach in Heidi Konop's classroom. Meng has worked for several years in Verona as a Special Education Assistant and is completing his teaching license through Verona's Grow Your Own Program. We are excited to have Mr. Vang join us, as NCS was his top pick of student teaching placements.

Sandee T. officially has submitted her request to retire at the end of the school year to the School Board. We will explore posting and hiring this K/1 position early in the season.

We will have further discussions of how we opt to post the annual I/A position.

Jim Ruder has submitted his request to retire at the end of the school year. The nature and timing of his replacement posting is being discussed.

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

Brett cut a check for \$324.03 to cover Fall After-School Homework Club teacher stipends and Winter After-School Cursive Club supplies (calligraphy pens and paper).

Both STEM and Cursive Club were well supported by parent volunteers the first week. Charyn reported kids were really taking off and enthusiastic. Tess was encouraged by the first week of STEM as well. We pick up programming again on Jan. 25. The predetermined two week lull was awkward and caught a few families by surprise yesterday.

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.

Diversity and Equity Committee- We completed our December 16 Asia event. The Madison Hmong Cultural Center offered a 40-minute session to a group of 60 students in the STEP room. Roshni Chowdhry (Mihika's Mom) presented on India and Mihika performed a traditional dance with her instructor. In addition, VAIS teacher, LeiLei Song, and Director, Barb Drake, presented on China and guided students in writing a Chinese character. There was a bit of disappointment in the limited hands-on learning with the Hmong presentation, but our students remained relatively attentive throughout. Planning continues for spring events on Autism and Equity/Justice. Joff also opened up presentation options; 4/5's and Mrs. Klawiter took advantage of seeing his slides of his recent visit to the World Games in China.

Great Kindness Challenge (Jan. 25-29th): will be a focus of the Community Gathering on Thursday. Students will be asked to consider how they can step up their kindness, possibly including a coin collection to help build a school in Africa,

(Kind Coins for Kenya), yarn boom the front trees, and poetry pole. Jennifer is open to yarn donations.

VASD School Board Report: In late December, the School Board ruled out options to move New Century School as a way to relieve the overcrowding at Glacier Edge. The Board is expected to make a decision on the possible return of the 6 day special schedule next school year at their next meeting on January 25.

Proposed Marketing and 5 year old Kindergarten Registration Dates and Events:

Monday, Jan. 4: District Mailing to all families.

Thursday, Jan. 21: School Tours 8:30-10:30 am (need 3 people)

Mon., Jan. 25: Badger Prairie Food Pantry Booth 10:00-1:00 and 3:00-7:00 (VAIS)

Wed., Jan. 27: B & G Food Pantry Booth 9:00-11:30 and 6:00-7:30 (CORE)

Thur., Jan. 28: Badger Prairie Food Pantry Booth 10:00-1:00 and 3:00-7:00 (need 1 person)

Tuesday, Feb. 2: District Kindergarten Info Meeting at B&G Club 6-7 PM (need 4-6 people)

Saturday, Feb. 6: School Tours 9:00-11:00 am (need 3 people)

Thursday, Feb. 11: School Tours 8:30-10:30 am and 6:00-7:00 pm (need 3 people)

Tuesday, Feb. 16: School Tours 8:30-10:30 am (need 3 people)

Friday, March 4: Charter School Choice Applications Due

We are in the process of establishing which 4/5 students will be available to help with tours. Leigh has updated three different NCS single page flyers on volunteering, general info, STEM, and A Day in the Life of a Kindergartener. Kelly at the District office has updated our school fact sheet using a format consistent with the rest of the district schools. Leigh has a draft of a tour guide script. Abby will send out a Sign-up Genius to the whole group.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS:

Silent Auction: GREAT results! \$4,950 raised. There are a few PayPal transactions to be resolved. We had a great response from the community for donations. PayPal was a bit awkward about pick up time without being able confirm payment. There were a few glitches with the web site. We may consider a dedicated auction web site for schools to host the event in the future. The support from the NCS community and the Verona community was impressive. It was a GREAT event!

Barnes and Noble Gift Wrapping: We made about \$200 over the day and evening. Those who participated reported to have fun. A few interested families asked about NCS and a few NCS alumni participated. It was announced over the PA to take advantage of the NCS gift wrapping.

Fun Run: The community-wide Color Run will not happen. The original coordinators have to back out due to conflicts. Consensus was instead to go back to the April Open Skating Party and Chili Cook-off. Shoot for April 10

Spring Dance: March 4th if the gym is available. This is a social really, not a fundraiser. Andy and Tim will be available to DJ. We will explore having 4/5 hold a Bazaar to raise money for the 5th grade end of the year party.

Target Red Card For Schools: is coming to a close. We expect about \$1,400 for our spring check and then a bonus of half of that (\$700) to help soften the news of the program ending.

Sustaining Donor Program: will be explored by Susan to target alumni families, etc. Should we establish an alumni group for NCS?

Schoola? Klm will get some more details and share with Susan and the rest of us. This is a site to reuse/resell kids' clothes; schools receive 40% of the profit.

Culvers?: Yes, Karen Schultz will be looking into it. Should we time it to take place before March 4th, the K registration cut off?

Brat Stands at Millers?: Leigh will contact Millers. Should we time it with **car wash?**

Thermal Energy Systems Donation of \$1,512.00 Thermal Energy Systems is the workplace of David Bradley.

American Family Insurance sent us all of the Box Tops they collected.

50/50 raffle for May 3 Spring Concert was discussed. We will check to see if our raffle license covers that.

Badger Gymnastics for Saturday, February 6th, from 3-5 pm. This is a private event with no rental fee! Cost is \$8 per person. (Cost is higher than Gymfinity but much cheaper than Rockin' Jump.) We can invite our school as well as friends!!! Nonschool-aged kiddos should be tailed by a parent for safety! 40% of the profits come back to us. We have use of a small party room for food, but I haven't decided what food to have there yet. Bake sale will take place. I did also visit Rockin' Jump, but the manager was not helpful and they had artificial fragrance pumping throughout the facility.

Account Balance: January balance was estimated to be about \$22,778 plus Silent Auction .

- 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

Summary of requests:

\$88.00 for Tara Schneider-paid

\$88.00 for Sue Austen-paid

\$8.35 for cursive lined paper-paid

\$139.68 for Cursive club pens-paid

\$390 worth of building blocks for school-wide collection as recommended by Lee. Lee will also use \$260 of his Classroom STEM Budget and Heidi will use \$130 of her STEM budget to purchase an additional 3 kits to share NCS-wide. (passed unanimously)

\$50 for annual membership to Upper Sugar River Watershed Association needs to be paid as approved electronically

\$350 to refinish Grandma’s Rocking Chair (passed unanimously)

From \$9,448.00 EPIC grant, we have spent:

\$7,750.77 for the Everyday Math purchase (reimbursed to Site Council)

\$750.00 for annual PLTW fee

\$ 231.00 Fall STEM session teacher salary

\$310.00 Oregon STEM conference registration

\$157.23 various teacher purchases

\$249.00

Grandma’s Rocking Chair. The local Fire Department Inspector directed us to remove Grandma’s Rocking Chair from Jennifer Klawiter’s classroom in December because they deemed it a fire hazard. Jim treated it with a fire retardant spray and submitted that to the Department. The inspector was not satisfied with that effort and repeated his directive to have the chair removed. He explained that he would only be comfortable with the chairs purchased by the District. So, we are having the chair reupholstered with fire retardant, commercial grade material at McGilligans in Fitchburg. Jim has donated the \$130 down payment, but the estimate cost could include another \$350. Jim requests that the Site Council consider picking that

balance up and as a way to purchase the chair to be used in Mrs. Klawiter's room.
Motion to approve the \$350 passed unanimously.

Announcements:

Jan. 14: 7:45-8:05 am: NCS Community Gathering

Jan. 18: No School in honor of MLK Day

Jan. 19 K/1, Jan. 21 2/3, Jan. 22 4/5: Field trip to Aldo Leopold Nature Center

Jan. 21-Feb. 6: School tours, see above

Feb. 3: District 5-year old Kindergarten Meeting, 6:00 pm at Boys and Girls Club

Feb. 9: 4/5 trip to Overture Center for Rosa Parks show

Next NCS Site Council meeting date: Tuesday, February 9, 2016 @ 4:00 pm at NCS.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm