

NCS Site Council Notes December 9, 2014, 4:00 at NCS, Lee Lohr's Classroom

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

### **BUDGET, 501c3, and RECHARTER EFFORTS:**

**Recharting Agreement with the School Board-** Kaitie presented to the VASD School Board Monday, Nov. 17, with the meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Kaitie did an amazing job with presenting information and answering questions. Several Site Council members were in attendance. The Board was impressed with the STEM emphasis. The second meeting and vote took place on Monday Dec. 1. There were just a few questions from the Board and they voted in favor of the new 5-year agreement.

### **STEM Curriculum/ Personalized Learning –**

\*The afterschool Castles and Catapults 8-week program concluded yesterday.

Families completed feedback surveys. It was at times difficult to fully include first grade student students in the activities. Perhaps having a K-1 and 2-5 grouping may be a consideration in the future.

\* Kaitie met with staff to discuss the STEM grant budget and again encouraged teachers to order materials so that they can sample them and then be more informed about ordering the remaining budgeted amount before the school year ends.

\* Jim has ordered 8 copies of the new book, entitled Making Learning Personal. Teachers will be given a choice of participating in a face-to-face or electronic book chat starting in January. Jim requests Site Council to reimburse 8 x \$30= \$240 for the books. We continue to work toward the fall of 2016 when Personalized Learning is targeted to be fully implemented within the Verona Area School District. Moved to approve and seconded by Beth and Charyn. Motion passed.

\*Jennifer Klawiter has volunteered to serve on a District-Wide committee which is sharing and exploring how Personalized Learning is progressing at each school.

### **MARKETING UPDATE:**

**Marketing Update:** Beth, Abby, and Leigh are scheduled to meet with consultant David Voss to further strategize our school marketing efforts on Dec. 15 at 8:00 AM. Kelly Kloeping, Communication Liason, has been hired and will also be a part of that. Marketing Committee will meet some time prior to the David Voss meeting.

**Kindergarten Information Meetings** have been scheduled with the other Charter Schools and a neighborhood school rep on:

Jan. 20, 5:30 pm, Stonecrest Apt., 5673 King James Ct.

Jan. 20, 6:30 pm, Boys and Girls Club, 4619 Jenewin Rd.

Jan. 22, 5:30 pm, Nakoma Heights, 4929 Chalet Gardens Rd.

Jan. 22, 6:30 pm, Fire Station, 5445 King James Way

Jan. 27, 6:30 pm, Badger Ridge Middle School

Letters and DVD will be sent by the District in early January. Are there site council members willing to call 200 (one third of the 600) families to promote attending K Information Meetings and reinforcing families have a choice? A script promoting choice will be available,

NCS Tours will be available as requested. We will promote Tuesday, Feb. 3, 8-10 am, and Saturday, Feb. 7, 10 am-12:00 pm for larger group tours.

**Logo STEM Addition?** Should we include a reference to STEM in a line under our current logo? This item is tabled until after David Voss and perhaps until we implement STEM for a bit. There is a consideration to include the A (arts) and perhaps another E (esteem) ESTEAM

**Update on NCS web page-** Sarah will work on it, but we still need a person to head it up. Brandi will explore what needs to be done. Janette could be available to consult if need be. Susan volunteered to head it up and work with Sarah and Brandi.

**Enrollment-** One 4/5 student moved in November. We expect a 2/3 student to transfer from VAIS starting next Monday. It is also likely his first grade sister is also going to transfer. We expect one K/1 student to move in January.

## **SCHOOL CLIMATE/WELLNESS**

\* **Raptor System-** Is expected to be introduced to all families District-wide soon. It is scheduled to officially start after Winter break. We have been using the stickers, as our visitor badges have declined in number.

\* **Survey-Update from** Kaitie, Jennifer, and Susan will continue to refine and draft Shared concepts list. Please send feedback to them. Hope to send out electronically in Jan. for Site Council members to take before our next meeting.

\***Student Council** Jim has continued to meet with a student council group from grades 3,4, and 5 grade twice a month to field ideas on how school is going and what we might do together to make it an even better place to learn. Topics of discussion on the last meetings have included students appreciating nice teachers who help you, class pets are great- it is fun to feed them, there is a good amount of time for literacy, break for recess, and then math- it is a good order. Scratch has been great, working with K/1 is fun. We get to do lots of different things in gym class.

I like the Bee Bucks, it encourages people to be good. I like the blue tickets on the bus. The SMART board is working in Mrs. Klawiter's class. Maybe Mr. Gundlach and Mr. Lohr need one also. Ideas to consider: We could use snacks in 2/ 3. Kids think it would better if students looked out for each other more. Could we possibly make a tree house by the Eagles Nest? The gym and the lunch room are far from school. Could all kids be allowed to chew gum?

\* **Book Club** Abby reports 2 kids read the book among 8-12 students (2nd week, 1-5). Next book is yet to be determined.

\* **The SMART Board and Amplification System** for Jennifer Klawiter has been installed. It is a new system and has come with some challenges to work out. Jennifer has also been using an amplification system in her classroom. The system is in place to help the learning of a student with specific special education needs. Some schools and districts use a similar system in all classrooms to help benefit the learning of all students. Jennifer has modified the volume after receiving feedback it may have been too loud at times and giving some students a headache. Jennifer will place information in her newsletter, welcome feedback and inform parents of options available (adjusting the volume, headphones).

**Mississippi River Museum Trip** is scheduled for Wed., May 6 (the day following the Spring Sing and Art Show)

**Diversity and Equity Committee-** Marti Fechner is chairing the committee which met last Wed., Dec. 3. In attendance were: Heidi Klahr, Karen Pings, Marti Fechner, Jen Polglaze, Isabella Agasie, Jim Ruder, Bruce Moore, Not in attendance: Beth Junge. Proposed plan for new learning series. Continent-themed with Africa in Feb. and South America in May. Monday, Feb. 9th, 12:30 pm start and finish by 2:20 pm. Drum Power, a drum group from Madison, will kick off the event with a short demonstration in the STEP room followed by 4 stations/rotations. Drums, NCS First Grade family from Burkina Faso, Q and A, and two other presenters will comprise the afternoon. Drum Power may cost as much as \_\_\_ and the two other presenters may cost up to \$75 each. The discussion concluded that the price for the drum group may be too expensive. The committee should work with a limit of \$250 per event. Kaitie offered to present during a section as she lived and worked in an African country for a year, but will be out of town the week of Feb. 9.

## **FUNDRAISING EFFORTS:**

### **Grant Updates:**

**Target Field Trip Grant to Discovery Center in Milwaukee** waiting for word in December.

**Garden Grant** - submitted and waiting until Jan.

**\* Current Budget Update:**

Jen reported we have a \$10,000 balance up to date. Quiken program is being put together to reflect our budgeting. Pay Pal is updated and ready to be used. Tammy, Jill and Jim will discuss when the 501c3 will pay back expenditures. 501c3 nonprofit status renewal was also key in the Charter Renewal process. Thanks again, Jen!

**\*Silent Auction preview day Dec. 8 and 9-** Bidding is going on now. Bidding ends 9:00 PM Dec. 14. Jeanette did a great job of adding items to the web page. Facebook site, putting posters up in town, put up at Eagle's Nest, and will be in the paper. (Thanks, Kaitie)

**\*Fall Fundraiser-** Kaitie offered to take over fundraising next year.

REAP- profited about \$508.82

Equal Exchange -profited \$853.16

Wreaths- profited about \$300. ABOUT THE SAME AS LAST YEAR.

**\*Artsonia-** Bonnie has been working on getting the uploads going. Let's check with Bonnie to see if she needs help for a push before the holidays. Bonnie is doing GREAT with keeping up with pictures and artist comments.

**Donation for winter wear and Wish List for Giving Tree-** for classrooms, school, or students taken care of. Abby will resend Amazon list. A few tags have been removed from the wish list tree at the front door.

**Gift Wrap and Barnes and Noble-** Dec. 19, 5:00-10:00 pm. Tammy will send out an invite in this newsletter to join the effort. We have three people planning to be at the event: Leigh, Abby, and Charyn. Beth will print labels using thumb nails Abby will share.

**Announcements:**

\*Wed., Dec. 10, 9:25-11:25 am 4/ 5 Grade to Memorial High School Planetarium

\*Dec. 16 and 17, 2:30-7:00 pm, Auction Item Pickup

\*Wed. Dec. 17, 7:35-8:00 am, Monthly Community Gathering in STEP Room

\*Fri., Dec. 19, Barnes and Noble Gift Wrapping 5:00-10 PM

\*Tues., Dec. 23, 12:20 pm Early Dismissal

Mon., Jan. 5, School Resumes

\*Early January- Winter MAP Assessment for grades 3-5 in reading and math.

\* Sat., Jan. 31, Gymfinity and Bake Sale 1:00-3:00 pm

**Next NCS Site Council meeting date: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 4:00 pm at NCS.**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.**