

NCS Site Council Notes September 15, 4:00 at NCS, Lee Lohr's Classroom

Welcome: Start of School stories: The following site council members were in attendance: Leigh Schmidt, Jennifer Bradley, Abby Jakowski, Brandi Mueller, and Non-voting 501c3 Representative Charyn Grandau, Susan Christiansen, Jennifer Klawiter, and Jim Ruder. Not in attendance: Sarah Gaskell, Bruce Moore. New Site Council Members: Katie Kohl, Robin Kling, and other visiting parent Kim Wroblewski. Paula Hass may be interesting in joining.

501c3 Report from Charyn- This committee will be developing a mission and goals to share with Site Council at a proposed joint meeting in November. Can we consider placing this on the November calendar? Should we have a second meeting or attempt to incorporate this into our monthly Site Council Meeting on November 10? Yes, 5:00 pm. Charyn is looking for help for the Grant committee.

STEM Curriculum/ Personalized Learning -

* Jim and Tammy will review necessary paperwork to complete the DPI STEM grant. It is due on Sept. 30.

***After-School Programming.** Jennifer Bradley reported she and Deb Pleuss will be helping with the project. Abby will send out an email to see if someone can relieve Deb of her Scholastic Book club duties.

MARKETING UPDATE:

* **Enrollment-** We are at our cap of 126 students. All students enrolled as we had hoped. One student will be leaving Mrs. Klawiter's class after Friday, moving to Madison.

***Social Media-** Kelly Klopping, Communications Coordinator with the District, is wishing each school to be active in Facebook and twitter. We will hope to work with current efforts headed up by Stephanie Leuer and Susan Christiansen. Jennifer Klawiter is currently doing a twitter account with her class, one tweet a day. Susan will contact Kelly and explore options of uniting efforts.

***Oct. 9 Homecoming Parade.** Any interest in participating? No thanks. Let's consider a concession stand in the future instead.

Back to School Night 6:00-6:15 pm in Step Room with parents and students. Jim will welcome all, staff and Site Council members will introduce themselves. Jim will summarize building goals for the year and promote Learning Pledge. Susan will promote fundraising efforts Target, Box Tops, T-shirts, window decals for cars, Equal Exchange, silent auction, spring fun run. Abby will promote volunteer opportunities, including Site Council membership. Isabel will promote Diversity and Equity events and efforts. Jim will wrap up with Appreciations for attending, promote sign up for fall parent teacher goal setting conferences and promote everyone being welcome to attend Community Gathering once a month. Parents go to classes, students head to the playground. 6:20-6:50 pm First session of K/1, 2/ 3 , and 4/ 5 classroom teacher presentations. 6:50-7:20 pm Second session of K/1 and 2/ 3 sessions. 4/ 5 parents will stay for 1:1 iPad information meeting.

* **School Mission Update-** Final version of the updated Mission Statement follows:

New Century School Mission Statement

Revised September 8, 2015

At New Century School we provide a nurturing environment and are committed to the success of every student. Students, teachers, and families form a partnership for learning. We strive for all students to DISCOVER joy, beauty, wonder, and greatness within our natural environment, as well as within themselves and others. 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.

* **By-law Adjustments-** Final version of the updated By-laws follows:

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 giving a report and submitting minutes at each Site Council meeting. All minutes will be available to the school community. All meetings are open to the school community and to the public.

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.

SCHOOL CLIMATE/WELLNESS

Diversity and Equity Committee- We met on Wed. Sept. 9 at 6:30 pm. We plan to offer presentations and discussion on Dwarfism on October 2, in the Step Room. We will plan a 4 station rotation event for December on Asia, classroom presentations in April on Autism, and a 4 station rotation on Social Justice in May.

Nurtured Heart- Jennifer Klawiter is co-facilitating an 8 week course on Nurtured Heart after school on Thursdays with Sugar Creek. Tara Schneider is participating as the only other NCS teacher not to have participated in the training last year or this summer. Spec. Ed. EA's and Kitchen staff have also begun district-wide classes. Tammy H-A will offer a parenting class this fall. We will plan to promote the class.

School Board Action- The School Board is continuing to work on a district-wide student behavior system, considering options of site based management and facilities plans. None of these seem to be resolving in the near future. We will be advised when or if decisions will impact NCS. The School Board is looking for volunteers to serve on a committee to develop a Board Policy regarding transgender. The committee will meet Oct. 1, 15, 22 from 6:30-8:00 pm at the central office. Please contact Dean Gorrell/Tamera Stanley if interested.

Six Day Schedule Tammy's extra efforts with calendars has been a big help. We managed our first skinny schedule on Monday with 22-minute library and PE

classes. The noon recess location of the Sugar Creek primary playground has been working out thus far with help from the Stump Patrol.

NCS Behavior Data- We have had ONE major office disciplinary referral thus far in September. Knock on wood. We averaged 2.33 per day last September.

Proposed Goals for the 2015-2016 Year follow:

NCS Goals 2015-2016:

1. Students will demonstrate appropriate behavior as evidenced by a 25% decrease in the rate of Behavior Office Referrals, when comparing 2015-2016 with 2014-2015.

* NCS teachers and staff not already trained in Nurtured Heart 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 ositive acknowledgements and celebrations.

* Tier II, Check in-Check out will be implemented with fidelity for 5-10% of students, as needed.

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

* A list of logical responses to major behavioral offenses will be shared with learners, families, and staff.

* A "Think About It" sheet to promote learner reflection and active involvement in the problem solving process will continue to be used with a Restorative Practice approach.

* A "Learning Pledge" to be signed by parents, staff and students and returned by the end of September.

* 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 continue to have school-whole school gatherings at least on a monthly basis to celebrate successes and promote future positive behavior.

* A Student Council will meet with the Director at least monthly. The Council will be comprised of two students from each classroom in grades 2-5.

2. NCS learners will continue to demonstrate growth in Math skills as measured by MAP scores indicating all students to meet or exceed projected growth when comparing spring to spring scores. Grade 3 students will be measured for growth rate from Fall to Spring. K-2 students will demonstrate growth rate in Math Skills by comparing fall and spring Math Screeners.

A. NCS will implement the newly updated Everyday Math program.

* NCS teachers will participate in an orientation to the updated Everyday Math program.

* Learners will be given opportunities to utilize new technology components of the Everyday Math program, Dreambox, and/or Wowzers Math or other digital Math options.

B. Personalized Learning- NCS teachers will further prepare for full implementation of Personalized Learning Strategies in the 2018-2019 school year.

* A growing number of NCS staff will participate in the 5w's class, Intro to Verona PLP class, and the Epiphany Learning class offered by the District so that 75 % of the staff will have participated in the 5 W's and Intro to the Verona PLP class by the end of the school year.

* 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.

C. NCS learners will continue to participate in STEM learning opportunities within the classroom and during an After-school enrichment program.

Technology- We expect to receive the 42 iPads for 4/5 students to go 1:1 within the next two weeks. We will store those iPads in classrooms. Students will be allowed to take them home starting November 2. Melissa Ruder, Technology Coordinator, has been promoting signing up for Apple IDs for each 4/5 student prior to the 1:1 information meeting set for Back to School Night on Thursday.

Field Trip Committee - Abby, Jim and Tara will meet on Thursday, Sept. 17 at 9:25 in Tara's room.

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. 6:30 pm

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS: Susan has a number of projects to share about at Back to School Night, including continuing Box Tops, Target, wreath and REAP, Silent Auction, and T-shirt/car sticker sales. We are hoping to sponsor a color run in the spring.

Account Balance: Expected balance to be \$10,700. We received another generous gift of 1,000 from the Beth Junge's Realty Inc. Site Council, 501c3 and school staff will each sign a thank you card to Beth and Scot. As a reminder, the budget from 501c3 outlines as follows for the school year:

- o Curriculum / School Supplies: \$500
 - o Fieldtrip: \$500
 - o Marketing: \$1000
 - o STEM: \$4000 (\$500 per teacher, per year, plus \$1000 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: \$4000
 - o Internal events/cultural: \$1000
- Operating Budget: \$1500

* **EveryDay Math** Teachers participated in a webinar before school started. Heidi reports a definite upgrade in the quality and rigor of the lessons. We are looking forward to tapping more of the technology tools. Slide shows for each lesson. Students will have online math options. We hope to schedule one more webinar with McGraw-Hill.

Announcements:

- Sept. 17- Back to School Night
- Oct. 2-Dwarfism Presentation
- Oct. 7 Community Gathering 7:40
- Oct. 9 Picture Retake
- Oct. 23 Report Cards go home
- Oct. 27 and 29 Goal setting conferences
- Oct. 29 and 30 No School

**Next NCS Site Council meeting date: Tuesday, October 13 , 2015 4:00 pm at NCS.
Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.
(Add Spring Pictures to the Oct. agenda.)**