

MINUTES

2/29/16 SITE COUNCIL MEETING

In attendance: Ray Aponte, Arthur French, Steve Richter, Theresa Bulander, Joan Pearson, Sharon White, Colleen Aho, Jocelyn Cruz-Mestizo, Mayra Leal-Munoz, Hadia Saleh, Amarti Bekele, Sharon Rush, Lauren Lewis, Kyra Hood, Ayub Mohamud, and Karen Holly.

Welcome: Introductions
Arthur French chaired meeting

Summer Educator's Institute:

Eden Bart from the Minnesota Humanities Center gave an overview of their program.

Educators are their primary area.

Currently recruiting for the summer institute (last week of June).

Some South staff attended last year and spoke very highly of the program. Would love to get another group or two from South to participate.

They are hoping to secure grant funding to do district-wide trainings.
Webinar 3/8/16.

Principal's Report:

We received our 2016/2017 budget allocation.

Ray starts by plugging existing staff into these new figures so see where we sit. Once he does that, he determines if and what adjustments need to be made.

He is pleased with our bottom line compared to other schools.

Passed out a recap for everyone to review.

Newcomer Program:

The Newcomer program has caused time issues. More parent meetings, more international transcripts to transcribe.

Wellstone had 2 full time counselors previously for the Newcomer program. They only cut it to 1.5 even after we took a large portion of the students. We are understaffed in our counseling department to meet the needs. Ray has restored the .5 counselor position that was eliminated during the 2015/2016 school year. That should at least help with processing 504 plans and the

Newcomer students (Ratio is recommended at 250 to 1. We're at 380 to 1.).

Neighborhood Expansion:

There is a meeting being held here at South High (room 149) from 4:00 until 5:30 pm on Tuesday, March 8th. Ray would like to see student representation there.

On-Going Data Collection:

The district is using a new website for data collection. Ray glanced at it. Lots of behavior information, graduation rates, etc.

Student Council:

Sold 269 tickets for Winter Ball (high number for the event).

Are planning a craft fair for 3/19/16. Hope to attract various vendors from the community, students and staff.

Sold more than 300 carnations for Valentine's Day.

Looking ahead to teacher appreciate week and what to do.

Almost reached their goal for the blood drive. Will hold another in the Spring.

Wrote a grant to the Foundation to put on a Spring Olympics (around 5/20/16).

Planning a Spring Fling and other year end events.

PUSH:

Had about 15 parents in attendance at their last meeting.

Julia Freeman spoke.

Had some great small group conversations.

What does an equitable South look like?

Ethan Dean was there to share some demographics.

Would like the conversation to continue.

Future Agenda Items:

Budget recap.

More data from Ethan Dean

Neighborhood expansion update.