

Millennium Middle School
SIP Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2009

Present:

Parents: Cathy Altenberger, Laura Hogan, Amy Shepherd
Administration: Maureen Altermatt, Darrell Plummer
Staff Members: Jennifer Jones, Amy Miller, Terry Furlong
Secretary: Marie Moore

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m.

General Announcements

- Thank you to CHEERS for providing a wonderful staff breakfast on our Curriculum Day, March 4th. ☺
- Brenda Bratt and volunteers were congratulated for hosting the 2nd Annual Family Geography Night on March 10th. ☺
Promotional ideas will be discussed to increase parent/student attendance in the future.
- ***The week of Spring Break is no longer tied directly to Easter. The common calendar for Oakland Schools will be followed; Spring Break will take place during the first full week of April. This year, that week falls right before Easter.***
- Several changes will take place next year with the Transportation Department. Bus routes will no longer be published in the South Lyon Community Schools "SPIRIT" Newsletter that is mailed to parents before the beginning of the school year. Information will be published in the South Lyon Herald, will be posted at schools and on the district website. There will be changes to bus routes to accommodate new building start times, larger capacity busses, and other logistical concerns to save money.
- Parents who are interested in planning the 8th grade dance may contact Ms. Altermatt via email at altermatt@slcs.us

Upcoming Events

- March 12th - Symphonic and Concert Band "Pre-Festival Concert" – 7:00 p.m. at MMS
- March 13th – End of 4th Marking Period
- March 14th – Science Olympiad
- March 18th – PTO meeting – **PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE** – 2:50 p.m.
- March 20th and 21st – Band and Choir Festival Competition
- March 26th – After School Activity Afternoon – 3:00–5:00 p.m.
- March 27th – Staff vs. Students Basketball & Volleyball Games (Sponsored by Student Council)
- April 1st – 5th Grade Parent/Student Night – 6:00–7:30 p.m. in the MMS Gymnasium
- April 6th – 10th – Spring Break – **NO SCHOOL**
- April 14th – NJHS Induction
- April 20th – Spring Writing Extravaganza

School Improvement/NCA

- Committees are close to completion in the gathering of final evidence to support the 7 AdvancEd standards, in preparation for our OAR visit in 2009-2010. Ms. Altermatt received confirmation indicating that we will be visited next year. She will be preparing the required report for submission this spring.
- Staff worked with colleagues from CMS to analyze semester exam data during the afternoon of March 4th. They worked with building colleagues to analyze MEAP data, which is still embargoed for release or use outside our building.

Budgetary Discussion

- Recent expenditures were reviewed.
- Ms. Altermatt and Mr. Plummer presented data and recommendations for the purchasing of new copiers to SIP. The SIP committee voted in favor of purchasing a new copier to replace the one in the 6th grade office, which is currently leased. The four year savings will be substantial. Available carry over funds, as well as funds from the 2009-2010 budget for copying expenses, will be utilized to purchase the new copier.
- A cost-benefit analysis has determined that there is no need to replace our other copiers at this time.
- We are investigating whether it makes economic sense to purchase new risograph machines at this time, given the high costs of maintenance and repairs of the old ones. We would still like to liquidate the current risograph supply inventories; staff is encouraged to use the riso machines whenever possible.
- Ms. Altermatt reviewed the proposed 2009-2010 Budget; the SIP committee voted in favor of the proposed budget.

- Due to the increase in transportation expenses, MMS will not provide funding from the 2009-10 building budget for field trips. This philosophy is consistent with the other secondary buildings. Groups, such as band and choir, may raise funds or apply for grants to finance their own field trip transportation costs.
- In 2009-10, the MMS Newsletter will be distributed on a quarterly basis. CMS will be going to the same schedule. This philosophy is consistent with quarterly distribution of high school newsletters. Parents are encouraged to register to receive the newsletter via email, rather than having a hard copy mailed to them; forms are available in each office.

Code of Conduct

- Middle School Parent/Student Handbook changes were presented, and approved, at the 3/2/09 Board Meeting.
- A teacher requested clarification of the cell phone policy in the handbook. Ms. Altermatt confirmed that, as stated in the handbook, students may possess a cell phone at school; however, the device should be stored in their locker during the instructional day. Ms. Altermatt then added that she does not want staff to ever search students to see if they are carrying a cell phone, if cell phone usage occurs during the school day, corrective measures will result.

Review of Crisis Plans

- Ms. Altermatt reported that the February 16th Crisis Simulation went very well.

Old Business

- Mr. Plummer reported that the new walkie talkies have arrived, and installation of the antenna is currently pending approval from the Operations department.

New Business

- Ms. Altermatt reviewed with the SIP committee the letter that was sent home to parents informing them of the changes that are taking place with 2009-10 student elective offerings in 7th and 8th grade.
- The Writing Extravaganzas next year will be grade level specific and tied to curriculum in Social Studies and Science, first and second semester, respectively. Mathematics will be embedded in the requirements.
- Ms. Altermatt nominated the MMS Writing Extravaganza for two Excellence in Education Awards.

Strategic Plan Focus Area: Healthy Learning Community

- Be the Change Group will conduct their first meeting today, March 12th, during C lunch; this group will involve 75 student participants. The group will brainstorm ideas to reinforce the Challenge Day theme throughout the school year. In one of their first activities, former Challenge Day attendants will create a short video expressing feedback from their experience, as well as encouraging student attendance for next year. Challenge Day is scheduled to take place next year on Monday, November 9th and Tuesday, November 10th for 7th grade students.
- The "Empty Bowls" fundraiser to benefit the Active Faith food bank that took place on March 5th was a huge success. Almost \$5,800 was raised from this very worthwhile event. Congratulations were given to the South Lyon art teachers; with a special thank you given to Jennifer Robeson for organizing all aspects of this initial event. We plan on having the "Empty Bowls" fundraiser become an annual event, and welcome the involvement of more SLCS staff, as well as volunteers from the community. ☺

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2009.

Submitted by,
Marie Moore

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

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SUPPORT STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

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ADMINISTRATION

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