

SIP Minutes February 22, 2016

Members Present: Jennifer Herbstreit (Principal), Dana DeGrazia (Parent/PTO President), Tracie Stidham (Teacher), Stefanie Pennington (Teacher), Teandra O'Brien (Teacher), Gary Braun (Parent), Katherine Housman (Support Staff), Lauren Thormeier (Parent/Cheers),

Members Absent: Elizabeth Gusick (Parent/Cheers)

Guest: Brittany Pearson (General Education School Social Worker)

Notes: Gary Braun

Next Mtg: March 21, 2016

1. Budget Review

- The committee walked through Year-to-Date actuals; two items warranted discussion:
 - o Standing concern about increased use of toner for the color copier/printer in the media center; Mrs. Housman is tracking the increased usage and will continue to keep the group apprised.
 - o Instructional services/staff development is over budget, due to training the district held and then charged back to the buildings.
 - o Mrs. Herbstreit fully expects to offset the overages with other line items.

1. State Assessment Update

a. Score Status

- School report card is green (highest level). Some key factors that influenced the score:
 - o Gap between lowest and highest performers was lower than other schools
 - o Participation was strong, including among special services students
- This year's testing:
 - o Planning and practice tests to start in March
 - o Tests start right after Spring Break (5th grade first)
 - o This year's test will be computer adaptive, which means the difficulty of the questions adjusts based on performance. This model allows the test to better assess stronger performers, and better indicates what those students are good at. However, it makes the first 10 questions very important, and staff can stress that with students during prep.
 - o Teachers are encouraged to consider the available supports and modifications, to understand which (like text to speech) can be turned on for students beyond those classified under special services

2. School Issues

a. Teacher of the Year

- Mrs. Jackson was the building's nominee, based on committee recommendation, as well as student, parent, and teacher feedback. Congratulations, Mrs. Jackson!
- In the past, all nominations were shared with the teachers, even if they weren't the building's official nominee; this wasn't done this year due to confusion around the process, but will return next year.

b. PBiS Update

- Ms. Pearson provided an update on the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports program:
 - o Under development to address recent behavior issues (bullying, kids putting hands on one another to solve problems, etc.)
 - o Gives teachers the time to focus on such issues without feeling like they are doing a disservice to the curriculum
- A committee of volunteer teachers will be formed to identify and implement various initiatives. Currently under consideration:
 - o Check-in program where specific students are assigned a staff mentor, who will check in with them during the week; this program might include a simple form with which kids could track their week
 - o A program to have teachers recognize kids for good behavior (in the hall, the lunchroom, etc.) and then have a drawing from nominated students for a reward (such as lunch with Mrs. Herbstreit)
 - o Buddy or mentor program within the students population, with 5th graders as mentors
- The teacher committee will bring ideas back to SIP for discussion
- c. Monetary Donation
 - The class of 1965 donated \$350; the committee was charged with deciding how to spend it before the donation could be officially announced at a school board meeting
 - Discussion focused on options featuring some sort of permanence
 - The group unanimously decided to earmark the funds for the PBiS Committee, with instruction that it be used to purchase resources for teachers (i.e. books aligned with the PBiS initiative)
- d. Copy Machine Updates
 - As previously discussed, most of the copiers at Sayre are well past the normal expected life; the main copier breaks down daily – sometimes multiple times during a day
 - Mrs. Herbstreit provided an update on copy machine replacement, now that she has met with the vendor identified by the district (Applied Imaging)
 - Prices were quoted for the main office copy room, the copier in the office, and the copier near media Center. The copier by the end of 3rd-5th hallway is too new to require replacement)
 - Some features and speed will vary by copier, with color limited to the copier in the office
 - Other features will be the same for all copiers:
 - o Scanning, with resulting file emailed to the teacher
 - o Ability to receive print jobs via email
 - o Passcode enabled printing, so all jobs sent by a teacher are saved until the teacher's code is entered
 - The group discussed pricing and the various options, and decided on 3 copiers that will total approximately \$31k to purchase
 - o The school district makes the purchase, but expects Sayre to return the money within 3 years
 - o The building budget carried over \$7k from last year, which would be applied to the purchase
 - o Savings on ink cartridges and the service contract with the new copiers could reach up to \$150/month

- o Mrs. DeGrazia will be presenting the need to the PTO at their next meeting; the hope is they can help offset some of the additional cost over the next three years
- o Once the PTO's possible contribution is known, a final decision will be made on whether to move forward

3. Other

a. The Paper Room

- The room has become quite messy
- Mrs. DeGrazia mentioned the PTO has much more in the room than normal, due to issues in another room, but that their stuff would be cleaned up soon
- The Kids Club section also gets untidy if kids go in to put stuff away on their own; Mrs. Herbstreit to talk with the Kids Club folks about keeping their section cleaner

b. Science Alive program

- Mrs. Pennington mentioned Sayre brought in this program in the past, and that it was very positive
- Brings real animals into all school classrooms
- There is interest in bringing the program in again, but the cost is approximately \$2,500
- Possible fundraising ideas were mentioned, and Mrs. Pennington is going to investigate further

c. PTO replacements

- Mrs. DeGrazia offered that her term as President and Mrs. Bell's term as Vice President are up at the end of this year
- Each may be willing to serve 1 additional year, but it would be ideal to have replacements go through the year with them, learning the ropes