

McNear SSC Agenda Minutes

December 19, 2011

Members Present:

Jason Fross, Jason Sutter, Jeanie Heaslet, Kelly Wood, Jennifer Dunbar, Shelly Kincaid, Joanne Smaciarz, Suzanne Gray

Opening:

Past Agenda reviewed and approved.

Agenda Item 1:

Year Round School Information Session

Jason F said no nay-sayers coming forward to say let's not move forward on year round school. Next step is to have another information session available to parents. It should be completely balanced. Lori Deen was mentioned as a presenter as she has taught at year round school.

Jason S said we heard from a few opinionated voices at last meeting. Is there a way to have a way to get needs met regarding information sharing - small group rotation perhaps?

Joanne suggested getting parent's questions in ahead of time so that they can be addressed at the meeting, rather than just depending on open discussion format.

Jason S suggested having parents that hold pro and con opinions available for parent questions.

Agenda Item 2:

Site Plan Goals and Data Review

Two major changes to past plan:

- 1.) We're using our own measures in addition to only relying on CST scores
- 2.) We are focusing on a specific strand of language arts

The new plan is about a third the size of past plans.

Language Arts

Jason F wondered whether the strategies written in the plan specifically focus on the needs of subgroups.

Jason S said the thought was that we're focusing on specifically targeting our subgroups, and the idea is to focus on academic vocabulary development. This will have an impact on all groups, though.

Tanya Wardsinger (who is working with McDowell and McKinley) will be coming to McNear to work on academic vocabulary.

83% is a sixth percent growth over prior data scores for Goal #2

Jason F asked how Walk to Read was going.

Jeanie said we are addressing needs (action points) mentioned in the school plan. For instance there is now a great increase in practice with information text and comprehension. The only down side is that there is only so much time in a day, and we have to let go of something to provide time in the day for Walk to Read.

Jason S said that feeling is kind of across the board for upper grades—it's valuable, but there is a cost in the academics that we had to cut to make room for this program. The staff has agreed to evaluate the progress after the winter. We'll look to see if all kids are making progress. The idea is that if we're meeting the needs of all kids with the interventions, then we should see growth in all students. We're doing frequent monitoring with the students who are at risk. Every other upper grade student will take the STAR reading assessment once per month.

Math

Jason S reminded us that the target year for the goals we were viewing is 2013, as they are two year goals.

Joanne asked whether we were using our math fact data toward the progress monitoring for this goal plan.

Jason S said he liked having that info gathered (where are we successful, where are we having trouble, etc) so that he knows what we need. He added math fact data, and math facts table as an item to Goal #3. Also suggested were adding as action items: trimester report of math fact fluency to parents; summer math club; and suggestion to enroll in summer math club on third trimester report card.

Community

Suzanne asked if the student survey data should be included as an item for plan.

Jason F suggested we also include the parent survey data in school plan.

Jason S said that we're working on the community STAR project right now. It was decided that Chris Bell's work with students be added to the plan also, since we spend SIP money on his position. Also added to the plan notes was the formation of the community committee.

Jason S mentioned that the focus on the curriculum for CSC rather than the outcome felt less than satisfactory. It would be nice if we could focus this goal on the student's sense of belonging or safety or sense of connection to school.

Jason F said he sees students being kind to each other at Recess Renaissance when no one is looking, and with no ulterior motive.

Jason F wondered if there was a way to track white slips or suspensions to find out how we compare with other school communities.

Jason S said there is data for suspensions, but he'd rather focus on positive data. We'll have to rely on perception data rather than hard numbers. This goal asks how kids feel.

Jason S said for goal #4, we should re-word it, and decide whether we should consider student well being itself or the larger school community which includes parents.

Joanne said she thought we should focus on the students, and the outcome of the CSC program and our student advisor program in the classroom community.

Jason S said he would like to use the data from the student survey in the action items.

Shelly said that student council and their proactive activities have an impact on the school, and should be mentioned in this goal.

Revised goal for #4 – Students will maintain or increase their positive feelings about school as measured by the student survey. May 2013.

Form B Goes to Jane Escobedo to be completed

Form C (?)

Jason said that our money for Form C was swept by the district, and that is why so many blank allocation boxes. He has talked to Steve Bolman and Steve agreed to re-institute our funds. They are not yet on the books, but will be coming.

The group voted to approve all revisions as they were discussed at this SSC meeting.

Other:

Chris Bell has agreed to coordinate Falcon's Nest Homework Club. It should be coming together in the near future.