

School Council Minutes Monday, March 31, 2015

Members Present: Mrs. Bolton, Mr. Maddox, Mrs. McMullen, Mrs. Byrd, Ms. Benzor, Mrs. Arnsdorff, Mrs. Belcher, Dr. Oatts, Mrs. Forero, Mr. Tony Belcher

Meeting called to order: 7:40

Minutes reviewed and approved.

Old Business

Title I News

- ARM and Saturday Academy are finished for the year. We served 538 students in Saturday Academy over the course of 8 weeks!
- Title I and Fellowship of Love Church will be providing Summer Bridge books for K-2 students, 3-5 grade students will receive a math or language arts test practice book.

New Business

Final meeting date for 2014-15: 5/26 7:30 AM - Stakeholder's Meeting

Dr. Terry Oatts

- Strategic Improvement Plan is going forward with FCBOE approval - in effect 2015-2020 (district is working towards aligning new state requirements with county resources and expectations)
- New test has a higher cut score but we are expected to be at the top
- Budget is still challenging, austerity measures still in place
- Superintendent for HR gave a positive report; proposed budgetary enhancement to alleviate class size and keep cap
- New teacher evaluating system in place (teacher KEYS). Next year's Milestone's scores will be implemented into the teacher scoring system.

Questions :

Will there be a rubric used for grade advancement?

- State Board waived the statutory request because of the new test
- Rubric criteria and additional data only used in cases of concern, using best practices for making a decision
- Rubric is public information and Mrs. Bolton can provide it as requested to any parent.

News article stating the concerns of parents who may want their children to opt out of Georgia Milestones. Is there a choice?

- Fayette County does not have an opt out protocol
- Opting out may have negative effects on the school (95% participation is required)
- Anxiety is shared by everyone involved
- State CCRPI measures the percentage of students that sit for the test.
- State is required to assess students (Federal funds - No Child Left Behind)
- State test this year will not count towards teacher effectiveness. 2015 is a “No Harm” year. Gateway waiver for 3rd, 5th, and 8th grades.

What will the process look like and how will this information be used to determine how to go forward?

- Test will provide baseline data
- Look at CCRPI - how students are growing
- Look at similar test profile history - CRCT
- Look at the implications on the students, school, county
- It may take years to evaluate data

Milestone testing is after spring break. Why is that?

- There is a state window for testing, districts may choose up to a year or two in advance
- 5th grade will start 4/14/15 using chromebooks in the classroom
- 3rd and 4th will start 4/16 - using paper and pencil

Title I Parent Survey

- Question number 3 and 6 should to be reworded for future surveys
- So far the results of the survey have been positive
- Surveys are being received daily. So far, about 150 surveys have been tabulated

Observations made

- Tardy issue- Some parents don't understand how far children must walk to reach their classrooms. This has an impact on tardies.
- Provide visuals (posters) for how long it takes kids to walk to their class
- School not able to provide crossing guard at this time; crossing guard needs to be employed/paid by school
- Number of staff helping in the car-rider line has increased.
- Police presence has increased and will continue to do so as the weather gets warmer.
- School office will provide parents information on their specific tardiness
- Provide a sign with number of tardies at car-rider line so everyone is aware and maybe it will reduce tardiness

Meeting Adjourned: 8:54 a.m.