

Site Council Minutes  
February Meeting, 2009  
Minutes Taken By: Sonja Youngquist

**Introductions**

*Reported by Bruce*

**Review/Approve Agenda**

*Reported by Bruce*

Approved

**Review/Approve Previous Minutes**

*Reported by Bruce*

Approved

**SCIP/PLC**

*Reported by Hans*

- PLCs are going forward
- More teachers are meeting, posting on Moodle, sharing what they are doing, looking at student work and thinking about how they can move forward.
- Having trouble with SCIP, went to PLCs , as needed basis do tasks related to SCIP

**Student Government**

*Reported by Julia*

- Student Gov is basically disassembled
- Need students in order to function
- Need meeting time
- Need valued work
- Even dance planning group defunct
- In past met Wednesdays during Advisory, met once during lunch
- Most people who went just wanted out of Advisory, so they tried to weed them out by application process, but they didn't get enough applicants
- Build Student Gov into class schedule for next year
- Kids need to be active in several activities due to small size of student body
- Not enough time for the student to do a lot of activities
- Many students need extra reading and math time, so they have less time to do
- clubs like Student Gov
- Students are torn between activities
- Come up with creative scheduling for events like Student Gov
- Students could miss Interventions once a month to meet for Student Gov so they can be active in it as well

- Students need compelling reason to attend Student Gov
- The dance is probably not happening during Snow Dayz, but maybe another week.
- Possibly an election process next year for the Student Gov representatives
- Maybe meet during lunch

## **Principals Report**

*Reported by Todd*

- Twenty new students since holiday
- Lost a few students
- Twenty kids is between 5 and 10 percent of student population
- Lot of unorganized energy due to outside issues
- The Committee of School Board is meeting, cuts are proposed. We will get more info in March
- There have been Gates-MacGinitie tests to measure progress
- All groups showed growth, between a year and a half year growth in grade level in those beneath their grade levels
- Some groups experienced drops in grade level, too. They are looking at their conditions.
- There will be more tests later in Spring
- There was math testing as well. There is no official math testing in district
- Hiring math teacher to replace Stephanie, who resigned. Interviewed two candidates, who are the only two who applied
- Achievement specialist pending
- Writing grant for MN reading core worker
- Entering SCIP season
- SCIP stands for "School Comprehensive Improvement Plan"
- They will make plan and budget for next year
- Looking at Expeditionary Learning, a comprehensive school reform model
- Framework reflects what we have here at our school
- No one seems to disapprove of EL
- There is a coalition of schools who use it .
- There are no other expeditionary schools in St. Paul right now, there is one in the works close by, there would be benefit to having more in area
- District wants charter school-like options in district to retain students
- Do assessment on what we need, Hans and Todd will go to spring conference
- Staff will need some training for EL, money should not be an issue, we don't know how much money we will need until we assess
- There was a positive reaction
- Will the district allow us to use EL?
- EL wouldn't mean we can't use existing programs
- K12 would use program
- Hans showed video
- EL is Project based
- EL schools serve communities

- Students at EL schools learn through doing
- District has seen EL before
- If we can present a program, will it protect us from the district?
- There will be something ready for March meeting
- If we had a consensus, we would publicize it more
- Possible unveiling at spring dinner
- Under EL we would have more field trips
- Look into the downfalls of EL
- Are there other models we should look into?
- This is the one that stood out as the best fit for Open School

### **Parent Involvement Committee Report**

*Reported by Ellie*

- Bonnie did paperwork to the IRS for the PTO
- One stop closer to being official, but they still have to pay costs
- Spring Dinner planning has begun
- It should take place April 23
- They are actively recruiting anyone who wants to be involved in the PTO

### **Review Parking Lot**

#### **Review Action Register**

- Latches installed, but not all of them work, Todd will look into that

#### **Around The Room**

- Suggestion to change the systems on computers. Plan to draft email, and figure something out
- Suggestion to sell Macs, get Toughbooks instead
- B.P.U. to debut in Jacks room on Friday
- The Spring Play is called "Way Off Broadway"
- It will be Coffeehouse style, with café tables available
- Play is March 12-13, 18-19
- Archery Club is starting
- Question of when Tech is starting
- At least one issue of The Purple Press online
- Working on getting all issues online
- Tim and Leo got 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in ski race over the weekend
- Under EL, we would have trips more often
- Tech Showcase on May 20, Lego League will be part of this.
- District wide Lego League competition, Lego League will become more active