

# FERNBROOK SITE COUNCIL MINUTES

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**MEETING DATE:** November 24, 2008

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Wendy Biallas, Christala Culhane, Bob Hainlen, Cindy Huseby, Kate Janka, Tim Klein, Patti Leaf, Sally Lundeen-Hoff, Teresa Lunt, Mike Odell

**AGENDA:**

**Additions to Agenda:** None

**SIP-School Improvement Plan:** Wendy Biallas distributed copies of Fernbrook's Site Improvement Plan report that was submitted to the district last month. 2008-09 is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of this 3 year plan. She reviewed the two objectives—1) to increase the math achievement for every Fernbrook student and 2) to increase the reading achievement for every Fernbrook student. For both objectives the goal is to have all students (below, at, and above grade level) meet or exceed the district average RIT growth. Last year there were 5 student groups that did not meet the district level in math and just 1 group that did not meet the district level in reading. Both objectives continue to be a focus, especially given the increased student population at Fernbrook this year.

Wendy also reviewed the action plan details for each of the above objectives. 1) *Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)* continue during which staff meet by grade levels and teams to discuss strategies. 2) *Formative Assessments* are used by staff to help students understand their learning goals. 3) *Grading and homework* discussions continue as staff develop ways to give students multiple opportunities to demonstrate what they have learned. 4) *Differentiation Training-Cluster Cadre* is being provided through a district pilot program. Staff will be meeting in the coming weeks to develop a school-wide philosophy surrounding differentiation strategies and implementation. Wendy also described differentiation in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade math curriculum and explained that Fernbrook is working with Osseo Junior High to create a smoother transition for those students next year. 5) *"I can" statements* continue to be used by students across grade levels to allow them participation in assessments of their learning.

**Fernbrook School Discipline Plan:** Mike Odell presented Fernbrook's behavior expectations that were developed a few years ago with the goal of creating a safe and respectful learning environment. The "Fernbrook Five" is referenced school-wide and Amy Fouquette (who now serves as part-time Behavior Intervention Teacher along with Mike) provides additional classroom instruction about respect, responsibility, honesty, courage, and caring. Students especially benefit from the common language about character education that is used at Fernbrook. Each fall, all students sign an anti-bullying pledge and are encouraged to act when they see someone else being bullied. The discipline plan also outlines the behavior intervention procedure.

**Future Agenda Items:** Mike requested that members email him with any suggested agenda items for the next meeting. If there are no specific needs, the group will not meet.

**Other:** Patti Leaf mentioned that some parents have expressed frustration about the lack of parking lot space during school-wide activities. Wendy indicated that the parking lot cannot be expanded, but that shuttle buses from the high school can be used for additional events given the increased attendance.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30am

Submitted by Sally Lundeen-Hoff