

Student Improvement Leadership Team

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Members Present: Mr. Hill, Rob Anderson, Leann Burris, Krista Frechette, Alicia Fischer, Sherry Augst, Don Myhre, Kip Sackett, Albert McGee and Kris Johnson

Approval of 12/18/07 Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made and approved to accept the minutes from the December 18, 2007 SILT meeting.

Principal's Update

- **What is Alternative Education?**
 - Mr. Hill shared an article from Kip about alternative education. Mr. Hill asked SILT members to read the article by Wayne Jennings and provide feedback on which practices mentioned in the article are implemented at the OALC.
 - Highlight with the funky green highlighter and place in Mr. Hill's box – he'll share the feedback at the next meeting.
- **Budget Cuts:**
 - Mr. Hill shared information on the reorganization that is happening at the district office level as part of the proposed budget reductions. The Executive Cabinet will include two new positions as a result of the reorganization – Chief Technical Officer and an in-house attorney.
 - Due to the budget cuts S.H.A.P.E., the OALC's child care program, will lose its supervisor position. DeLois Brown will continue until the end of the school year.
 - S.H.A.P.E. is under Mike Looby's umbrella of programs and the decision to cut the position was made at the district level. Alternatives to cutting the position were recommended by Mr. Hill.
 - The OALC will have a child care program next year.
- **Rumor Busting:**
 - SILT members are asked to share the information about the child care position budget cut with the staff. Mr. Hill encouraged open communication and sharing of information as a means of empowering staff as the budget reduction process takes place in the coming months. Checking rumors and maintaining a professional environment are also important.
 - The OALC will experience cuts next year including support staff. The specifics have not been determined at this point.
 - Class sizes will be increased and the flex position at the administrative level will be eliminated.

Student Recognition Committee:

- Kip and Alicia shared that the recognition committee is concerned about the committee's future if it does not continue as a PLC. The committee is vested in providing recognition opportunities for students and does not know if those opportunities can be provided without the time that weekly PLC meetings provide.
- Mr. Hill addressed the confusion created when the collaboration time implemented at the end of last school year was "rolled over" into site PLCs and the general disconnect between site and system PLC time.
- We will have PLCs next year and the collaboration time is important. Clarification of PLCs for specialized programs and concerns such as the one presented by the recognition committee will need to be addressed prior to next school year.

165 minutes and not losing credit:

- Leann presented her concern about students who have gone over their minutes and have received credit without going through the appeal process and appropriate channels. This has occurred on more than one occasion and is contrary to the information in the student handbook.

Discussion included:

- What are the legal ramifications if challenged? (When the student has completed the required work.)
 - What are we teaching students when we bypass the process?
 - What about students who do not have an involved parent to advocate for them?
 - What impact does it have on classroom participation requirements?
 - Are we dealing with behavior issues or academic issues?
 - Communication and credibility issues are important concerns.
- Mr. Hill will talk with Mr. Donovan about specific incidents involving students who received credit even though they had gone over their time. He also agreed to revisit the concerns for next year and recommended looking at the data on attendance and appeals for this year.

African American Read-in:

- The African American Read-in will take place during 2nd hour on Monday, February 4th. There will be no special schedule for the morning.

Other:

Structured Lunch:

- Follow-up: The PLC working on the structured lunch plan will be resubmitting their proposal.

Student Phone Use:

- The phone for student use has been moved to outside Mr. Hill's office but problems still persist. Students are using the phone during non-designated times; talking longer than the 3 minute limit; and using the phone for non-emergency calls.
- Suggestions included disconnecting the phone/hand-set during "off-times"; having a sign-in sheet for callers to help monitor excessive phone use; treating students as adults and working together to solve the problem.
- Mr. Hill will have an announcement about phone use restrictions posted on the daily announcement power point.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 6, 2008