

Independent School District 318
Together, teaching and learning for life . . . to achieve excellence
Strategic Aims: Highest Student Achievement, Safe Environment,
Effective and Efficient Systems, Partnerships

District Shared Decision Council Minutes of December 10, 2007

Present: Bonnie Johnson, Jenny Benes, Randy Erickson, Nate Lyons, Kami Daley, Brent Brunetta, Diane Klenotich, Angela Anderson, Susan Marking, and Dale Christy.

The meeting was called to order at 8:11 a.m. by Bonnie Johnson.

Approval of minutes: Randy Erickson moved, seconded by Nate Lyons, to approve the minutes of November 12, 2007. Motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda: No additions were made to the agenda.

May 5 Goal Setting Day at Wendigo: This item was tabled until further notice.

January 21 Multi-District Day: Jenny Benes and Dale Christy updated the committee on the January 21 Multi-District Inservice planned for Greenway High School. Staff will be able to gain clock hours in the curriculum accommodation, modification and adaptation area, as well as reading. Registrations are due to building secretaries by December 21. Substitutes are invited to attend; the registration fee is \$30. View the registration materials at: <http://www.isd318.org/ISD%20318/Staffdevel/packet.pdf>.

Another opportunity to gain clock hours will be on Saturday, February 2, with courses offered in behavior intervention strategies and early onset mental disturbances in children and adolescents. Register for these courses through Community Education: 327-5730.

January 8 Early Release Day Plans and Building Reports

Southwest: The January 8 early release day focus will include data review and leveled library and guided reading discussions. Staff hope to obtain further training on spreadsheets including ways to enter and access data and then track results. A concern expressed is the ability to use and analyze the data collected. Study groups have been postponed until January. A discussion occurred regarding the curriculum review cycle, curriculum mapping and process. Kami shared that Southwest staff appreciates the early release day opportunities.

Murphy: Early release day plans include lock down practice, meetings by grade level clusters, leveled library and reading strategy discussions, and data review. Educational Support Paraprofessionals (ESP) will also be involved. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing will be discussed with the possibility of additional testing offered, if needed. Staff are concerned with math scores and are looking for inservice opportunities. Student lists need to be updated for crisis situations.

Area Learning Center: Concerns have been expressed over the large number of students needing to pass the Basic Skills Test (BST) math test. Math classes are very large; concepts need to be further explained to students. Students are being held accountable and responsible for credit hours hoping to build on their math skills. Job placement and work experience programming will be an early release day focus. Students will work on developing work ethic, resumes and employment practices.

Bigfork: The site team meets monthly on building-related details and issues pertaining to students and policies. Staff will break into learning communities during the early release day and work on their action steps. Prime areas of focus will include reading strategies, positive environment, community involvement/development of a parent/teacher organization, and MAP reading scores. A staff meeting will be held later for teams to report back to the site. Suggestions to collect data on community/volunteer involvement include utilizing and counting visitor passes, implementing a volunteer/visitor sign-in book, and corralling the front entrance to guide visitors to the front window to register.

Grand Rapids High School: The entire site plan was reviewed. The site continues to work on safety and will hold CPR training for all staff. AED training was held in October for staff. Team updates will be given on math, literacy, and safe environment. The math department is looking at exit exams prior to moving students on to the next level. The crisis management team has been very effective and a report will be given on the threat assessment training held in Owatonna. The team will present to other sites if desired. Elementary sites were encouraged to seek further training from Eric Koenig, if needed. Transition programming is going very well; new plans for second semester are available.

RJEMS: Since RJEMS does not use a shortened schedule for early release days, the afternoon classes do not meet. Many teachers do not care for early release days due to this procedure. Staff will hear presentations and have discussions on autism, graphing/charting strategies, and Human Rights Temperature survey data. The computer technicians will be in the building to help graph data. The site team will discuss parking lot and lunch issues.

Forest Lake: Early Release day discussions will include leveled libraries, web resources on test data (train the teachers for student preparation), reading strategies, and crisis planning. Students' data sheets were reviewed with parents at conferences and evaluated. A common vocabulary was shared so all use the same language. To better manage the building staff development funds, requests for funds (such as the leveled library training) should be submitted in advance.

Cohasset: Three goals will be the focus for the early release day: reading, math, and safe/welcoming environment. The time goes very fast as goals and action plans are reviewed. The site will review feedback from their first multi-agency evacuation/relocation drill. Much support was given from the community and Eric Koenig. Issues faced include colder temperatures and keeping students warm. Test data will be placed on spreadsheets for staff interpretation. Differentiated instruction and leveled books will also be discussed. Many technology improvements are being seen at Cohasset: LCD projectors are being used in the building, a wireless router has been set up in the office, computer lab has been updated, and assessment data from Campus has been sorted and analyzed. The PTC has been very active and donated \$300 to each classroom to support independent reading and reading at the appropriate level. A presentation was given to staff on Love and Logic programming. Since Math Facts in a Flash is costly, the site is looking at different ways to achieve the same results.

ECFE will hold their regularly scheduled classes and will not participate in the January early release day.

Sharing of Learning Opportunities

It was suggested that the district and sites make better use of training opportunities attended by staff by compiling a list of inservices attended, date, content/focus, highlights and contact name. The participants could be encouraged to share the highlights of their training at staff meetings, during early release days, curriculum meetings, etc.

Early Release Days for 08-09: Bonnie Johnson moved, seconded by Nate Lyons, to recommend the School Board approve three early release days during 08-09 in October, January and March/April. Motion carried.

January 14 Meeting: Randy Erickson moved, seconded by Diane Klenotich, to cancel the January 14 meeting and meet on February 11 at 8:00 a.m. Motion carried.

Secondary Transition: Grand Rapids High School will share three assistant principals during second semester for approximately five weeks at a time: Candida Braun, Dale Christy and Connie Braiedy. Pat Rendle will serve as assistant principal at RJEMS and Roy Johnson will serve as RJEMS lead principal during second semester.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be **Monday, February 11, 2008, at 8:00 a.m** in **Administrative Services Room 135**.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenifer Benes