

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 Decisions Council Minutes, Monday, April 11, 2005

Members Present: Nate Lyons, Kathy Selmsler, Sue Mattson, Bonnie Johnson, Lynette LaRoque, Amy Keranen, Sue Hoeft, Susan Marking.

Meeting was called to order by Sue Mattson.

Moved by Bonnie Johnson, seconded by Kathy Selmsler, to approve the minutes of March 14, 2005. Motion carried.

Online Grant: Rochelle VanDenHeuvel shared information on a three-year Blandin Foundation grant in the amount of \$525,000. Seven districts and ICC have collaborated with the grant. This will provide an online learning program for our region. A coordinator will be hired to start in early May. The goal of the grant is to have six courses offered this fall and six additional courses each of the next two years. Course offerings being considered include credit recovery, Area Learning Center (ALC) courses, International Baccalaureate (IB) courses, Community Education/Adult Basic Education (ABE) classes, ICC developmental math classes and a job skills component. The collaborative will also work with businesses (Chamber of Commerce Work Force Development Committee) to develop courses that address work force skills (time management, work ethics) along with specific skills (counting change, etc.)

Invest Early has hired an executive director, Audrey Moen. Presently they are finalizing an application form for families who qualify for programming. The early childhood programming for children and parents will begin in September. Presently, postings are out for education leaders and licensed early childhood educators. Classrooms offered will include preschool, 3's and 4's. The Teenage Parent Program (TAPP) will mainly fill the 0-3 aged classroom. Qualified families will be chosen based on risk factors that have been identified along with families that are just above the qualifying line for Headstart.

Building Reports:

Murphy school has worked at rewording their goals. They will have their April meeting during the April 28th Blandin Education Leadership Program (BELP) training at Rutgers.

Forest Lake school has reviewed their improvement plan and still needs to identify a parent volunteer coordinator. They are presently writing a school-wide title one plan. The K-3 teachers have been meeting to plan and evaluate their reading grant which focuses on significant parent involvement and reading interventions.

Southwest staff are completing a survey to identify building needs for expenditure of money raised by the PTC. Love and Logic inservices are being provided for school staff on a voluntary basis after school.

Grand Rapids High School has an early release day planned for Wednesday, April 13. The focus will be on literacy with the staff training provided by high school staff. One action plan, which was to hire a reading specialist, has not been able to be completed this year. A lock down drill was conducted to familiarize staff and students on how to react to this type of an emergency.

Cohasset site team continues to monitor their improvement plan. Staff development requests have provided many opportunities for staff. They have used nearly all their staff development budget.

Bigfork school is needing to refocus on building goals. The new performing arts center will provide the school and community a state of the art venue for various school and community functions and events.

Early Childhood (EC) has been busy getting reading for kindergarten round-up and the Children's Fair. EC parents have been very active in their goal to save a class and will host a rummage sale at the Civic Center to raise dollars toward the class.

Basic Skills Tests (BST) 8th grade reading and math results and 10th grade writing results were distributed.

Next Meeting: We will meet on **Monday, May 9, at 7:45 a.m., in Administrative Services Room 135.**

Agenda items include:

- Review and Analyze BST Reading, Math and Writing Results
- Evaluate Blandin Educational Leadership Program
- Feedback on District Strategic Goals
- Reports from Sites

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Mattson
Assistant Superintendent