

DISTRICT STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, October 12, 2005

Administrative Services Board Room

12:30 p.m.

Members Present: Darrell Sampson, Kathy Miller, Janey Hill, Shelley Schramm, Kathy Selmser, Lori Clifton, Teresa Stephens, Brenda Gibeau, Steve Wright, Eric Northard, Rod Eidelbes, Ann Carlson, Kris Dimich, Connie Daigle

I. Call to Order

Rod Eidelbes called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m..

II. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Murphy will be represented by Kathy Miller and Georgia Niles. The secondary ESP representative will be Shelley Schramm. Welcome to the new members.

An addition to the agenda under New Business will be a Best Practices Grant for Beth Waskoski.

III. Additions or Corrections to the September 12, 2005 Minutes

Moved by Eric Northard, supported by Steve Wright to accept the minutes as written.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Budget

At this time, updated budgets are not available. Lorrie Larson is not available until next Monday. Staff who work in more than one building have their staff development funds placed in the building that they start their day. Rod will contact Larry O'Brien and get a list to each building of staff members funds. Reminder, the new mileage rate is 48.5 cents as of September 1, 2005. This may require some adjustments on requests that have already been turned in.

B. Program

Joe Silko was not available to make it to the meeting today. Angie Anderson presented an update to the committee about the on-line learning program. At this time, 30% of the schools in Minnesota offer some on-line learning courses. There are 19 licensed on-line learning providers in Minnesota this year. Grand Rapids now has a license. The current recovery courses available are Social Studies, English, Math and Science. It is important to provide on-line learning opportunities to students due to the funding goes to the on-line district first. For example, if a student takes six courses in school and one course on-line, the on-line school gets first dibs on the money for the student. This is a result of the MN On-line Learning Act. If you have any suggestions for future programs, contact Kris Dimich.

C. Mentor

No report at this time.

D. Policy

We still need someone to assist Janey on this committee.

V. Old Business

A. NCLB and Academic Standards Update

Rod passed out information about the upcoming changes with testing. Starting in 2006 the 8th graders will no longer be taking the BST's. The new test will be called the MCA-II. All students in grades 3 to 8 will have new reading tests. There is a test now for students with emerging English skills. This test may be taken for up to 3 years. The Alternate Assessments will still be given to students on IEPs. The teacher completes these forms. Alternate Assessments are counted into the testing results. There is a Math MCA-II for grades 3-8. The new 10th grade reading test will become the new graduation requirement in 2008. This is also true for the 11th grade Math test in 2009. The new reading and math tests allow two opportunities to pass. Grand Rapids will be piloting the Science test in grades 5-8 this year. The science test will be on-line. The goal is to get all of the testing on-line at some point in the future. In 6th grade students will be given a Developmental Writing Test for a baseline only. When students reach 9th grade they will take the writing test for the graduation requirement. The current 8th grade students will be under the new graduation requirements.

B. Continuous Improvement Update

The District Shared Decisions committee met last Monday to discuss their building reports and SMART Goals.

C. Professional Development Opportunities

Operation Jarrett will be offering training in CPR and the use of the AEO. This will be on October 27th from 6:00 to 9:00. You can find out more information and register at operationjarrett.org.

The Kennedy Art Center will be holding a workshop for Early Childhood to 5th grade that will tie into the Willy Wonka play at the Reif. The training will be held on November 4th from 12:30-3:30. There is no registration fee for this workshop. Title one dollars can be used to fund the substitutes. More information will be sent out soon.

D. March 10, 2006 in-service

There was a meeting late in September. The format will be a keynote speaker for the first 1 ½ hours. The team is trying to get David Walsh to speak on brain based research. There will be both a.m. and p.m. breakout sessions. The committee would like to have sessions to cover

