

# Durbin Creek School Advisory Council

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Start: 3:30 End: 4:10

**Welcome and call to order:** Chairperson Valerie Painter

**Change to SAC roster for 2015-2016:** to accommodate appropriate staff/parent membership ratio, Kadie Wheeler will not be on the roster as first grade representative. Valerie Painter will represent first grade.

**Review of September 2015 minutes:** motions made. Approved with corrections.

**Review and approve by-laws for 2015-2016:** Tabled for next meeting.

**School Recognition Money:** Valerie Painter explained use of school recognition moneys; interested parties (staff/faculty) voted that money would be distributed as bonus for teachers and staff.

## **Sharing of school needs by grade level:**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Brooke Reynolds shared that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade team has been creating center activities for entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade team. Laminating for reuse. Could use more resource books.

Dorinda Bowen (4<sup>th</sup> grade) suggested external CD drives for new teacher laptops. Perhaps iPads for classroom use (class sets or perhaps a mobile cart of iPads).

Brooke Paget (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) advised that her team would like geared Judy clocks (vs. paper models) and more non-fiction books/picture books.

Nena Thomas shared that 2<sup>nd</sup> grade has no additional suggestions at this time—her team aligned with other suggestions.

Valerie Painter (1<sup>st</sup> grade) suggests more lower-level non-fiction books. Katrina Stanton shared we recently acquired more K, 1 level non-fiction items. Also suggested tablets/iPads to check out by class. Would like more chart paper and markers for fluency centers.

Katrina Stanton (kindergarten) advised same things as 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Added some math needs; would like access to laminating for math centers. Also some hesitance about using iPads with young students unless they have some sort of protector on the devices.

Parent suggestion: more laminating film (sheets). Discussion of a better laminating machine in the school workroom.

Questions: *Do all classes have globes? Maps? Will survey the classrooms.*

Ms. McMandon went on to explain that any purchases will be reviewed and approved by SAC. Will have actual figures for us next month. Some discussion of Brain Pop and IXL.

## **Principal's Report**

**Public presentation of SIP:** Ms. McMandon explained the three primary goals:

**1) Writing engagement** (explained what is used, how programs are funded), so we now have systematic writing programs for every grade level. Trainings in-school per grade level. As administrator,

Ms. McMandon can now give specific feedback to teachers. All are "on the same page" now. Ms. Paget's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class was observed—trainer gave good feedback. Ms. Paget further explained how all grade levels will build on what was learned the year before.

Ms. McMandon added that use of authentic literature is a starting point for writing and writing enjoyment. Students are excited about it now. She feels we should have a writing block. This is a "learning curve year."

**2) Math Formative Assessment System** allows us to meet the student where he/she is in math and allows for differentiation within the classroom. Teachers can sometimes coordinate lessons between classrooms. Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students were highest-scoring in the district last year.

**3) Identifying ESE and Lowest 25% student population** requires we meet the students where they are, and it is often difficult to see increased achievement. We have added staff to work with these students. Ms. McMandon explained other strategies for different skills/subject instruction—keeping students engaged/focused. Dr. Nguyen asked how these students are identified. Assessments from last year along with other data (not just the Discovery Education) help identify these students.

Ms. McMandon advised that the District determines how much funding we receive for tutoring. More needy schools get more money. We have two part-time tutors. Difficult decision is to determine best time to pull them from class for tutoring—we do not want them to miss core instruction with their classroom teacher. Schedules are constantly being reconsidered. Also, some teachers offer before or after school help in subject matter.

Once the state approves our School Improvement Plan, it will be available for viewing on our school web page.

**Next meeting:** November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Members present:** Sandra McMandon, Valerie Painter, Jan Phillips, Katrina Stanton, Nena Thomas, Brooke Paget, Dorinda Bowen, Brooke Reynolds, Robin Zuckerman, Karen Johnson, Ann Nguyen, Tiffany Adam, Terryl Speer, Ashley Schaefer, Perry Waag, Akina Butler

**Members absent:** Sheila Caballero

**Guests:** Lorraine Cosgrove (District Buddy)