

Badger Ridge Middle School Site Council Minutes

September 15, 2014

✓ 6 th Grade Core: Karen Hanson	6 th Grade Parent: Christine Iszczyszyn	Resource: Nate Campbell	✓ Encore: Sarah Grotzky
✓ 7 th Grade Core: Suzanne Hartjes	✓ 7 th Grade Parent: Kim Mast	✓ Resource: Jane Teasdale	✓ Encore: Heather Thorpe
✓ 8 th Grade Core: Andrea Leibfried	✓ 8 th Grade Parent: Tim Slekar	✓ Support Staff: Jan Neumann	✓ CKCS: Michel LaFave
✓ Administrator: Mike Murphy	✓ Central Office: Betty Wottreng	✓ Facilitator: Barbara James	

Guest Speaker:

Other Attendees:

Welcome/Announcements:

- Round the table introductions
- Congratulations and thank you to Heather Thorpe for her great performance at our all-staff meeting in August.
- It's been a great start to the school year. Parents have made comments about this being the best start their child has had at school. Thanks to all for their good, hard work.

Enrollment Update:

As of 9/15/14, BR enrollment in PowerSchool is 486. We budgeted for 486 so are currently exactly at budget numbers. Students continue to be enrolled every day. Third Friday counts are taken on 9/19.

Technology Update:

During last year's budget review, dollars were allocated to technology purchases and/or upgrades. Council asked at the last meeting for an update on this. As purchasing decisions are ongoing, Betty and Laura will give an update at a later meeting.

Fundraising:

Last year's Council voted to discontinue the magazine sale as a fundraiser. The bulk of the money gained through fundraising has gone to Upham Woods scholarships and an allocation to Student Council to spend as they choose. New fundraiser(s) need to be established. Council brainstormed:

- Non-fundraising fundraiser (straight donations)
- Zumba-thon
- Involve kids more, including Student Council in the process
- Do some sort of collection in houses, creating a friendly competition
- Scripps
- Target Redcard
- Amazon Smile
- Encourage PAC to engage in fundraising as well.

Sarah Grotzky and Heather Thorpe volunteered to work with Barbara James on an action plan.

Building Goals:

Council reviewed the Reading Goal from last year and discussed modifications for this school year, including feedback from constituency groups. There was significant discussion about metrics, strategies, goal-writing, and philosophies.

Thoughts from Council and constituency groups:

- Looking at our data through an equity lens, are there students we are missing?
- How do we engage the kids who are least engaged?
- Students who are engaged will get better. Should we have a goal that is related to engaging students?
- What are our specific strategies?
- How do we help students who are struggling with reading to become good readers?
- Collegiately: highest ACT scores ever, but also the highest remediation needs for reading/writing. Interesting trend.
- We need to expand our metrics definition
- Access to books is a strong indicator of reading skills. The more access a learner has to books, the more their reading skills will improve.

- Do we include access to books as one of our metrics?
- Do we have every learner fill out a reading log?
- Reluctant readers who are overwhelmed by the amount of standardized testing tend to disengage.
- It's not good for kids to give them tests instead of instruction.
- We need to be very clear and transparent about what our goals and strategies are.
- We must address the causes of the achievement gap.
- Do we create strategies that "push from the bottom"?
- There is a large and distinct discrepancy between the test scores of our students.
- Much discussion about bringing specific attention to our Black, Hispanic, EEN, and Economically Disadvantaged students. Data suggests large discrepancies between these subgroups and their white affluent counterparts. It seemed that there was general agreement that more specific attention needs to be paid to these subgroups in our goals.
- Engagement goal: student survey about voice and choice?
- We need more teachers of color. The Grow your Own program is doing good work.
- Can we include best practices in our strategies?
- Parents want someone to advocate for their child.
- Want to find the time to really dig into each goal and create new, innovative goals. We need to finish the goals for now but then revisit them and USE them as we work through the year

While the discussion was rich in content, the building goals are not complete. There may be an additional Council meeting on Monday, 9/22 at 4:00 to continue this work. Council should continue to discuss the goals with their constituency groups, working on specific verbiage and proposing specific strategies. Members should apply tonight's conversations to other building goals as well.

Agenda for September 22nd, 2014:

Discussion Item	Allotted Time
Review building goals and modify as appropriate	

Parking Lot:

- ❑ Homework Club
- ❑ Update on technology purchases
- ❑ Students who are pulled from Encore classes in order to be in R180
- ❑ What are the barriers to successful achievement of academic standards? How do we continue to educate the whole child?