

Waddell School Governance Council

Date: April 9, 2015

Time: 6:30pm **Location:** Principal's Office

Members Present:

Parents:

Allison Peek
Tracy Maio
Autumn Struk
Joyce Rivera
Melanie Stefanovicz

Principal:

Mike Moynihan

Teachers:

Nancy Casey
Terry Doherty
Karen Taylor
Janice Medynski

Community Members:

Jerry Bidwell
Kurt Stefanovicz

Family Resource Staff:

Renee Bryan

Members Absent:

Jessica Carter

Approval of Previous Minutes:

- Approved: Janice Medynski motioned, Terry Doherty seconded.

Meeting Materials & Handouts:

- DRAFT: Waddell School Governance Council Bylaws

Meeting Minutes:

- **Discussion: website**
 - Janice worked with Sue Schiavetti and had "School Governance" added to the school website: <http://www.mpspride.org/page.cfm?p=1475>
 - Previous agendas are posted there
 - Melanie will forward minutes to Sue (b25sschi@mpspride.org) within 48 hrs of the mtg.
 - Joyce will forward member updates to Sue.
- **Discussion: Bylaws**
 - Edits were made to the draft.
 - Bylaws will be voted on next meeting.
- **Guest: Scott Ratchford, Ph.D.** – Director of Family & Community Partnerships
 - Mr. Ratchford was invited to attend the mtg from Mr. Geary to assess training for the council.
 - CT Association of Boards of Education (CABE) is available to provide 4 in-person trainings to Governance Councils. Mr. Ratchford reached out to his contact to see if training could occur at our next mtg (5/7)
 - It was requested for specific training in regarding to the Council's involvement in the new principal hiring process.

- The council is to reach out to Mr. Ratchford directly with suggestions of other training topics. In other words, other areas or topics that we need to be informed on to be effective.
- **Discussion: Parental Education of curriculum, testing and reporting**
 - Education of parents of school curriculum, testing and acronyms would be great. A pamphlet for parents to read or a night to explain. Parental education of the testing and reporting would mean less time at parent-teacher conferences explaining it.
 - Standards Based Report cards will be coming in the next year or two.
 - Standards based reporting, shows development curve and is not boiled down to one topic, it shows subskills (decoding, comprehension)
 - Portfolio based report cards
- **Discussion: School Achievement Data**
 - We don't have comparison data yet. Usually the benchmarks are taken the beginning, mid-year, and end-year. We have no beginning data. This is mid-year data.
 - Results show which students scored where. Helps to determine each student's progress goals.
 - Amy works with all teachers on reading. Karen works with all teachers on math.
 - **Karen Taylor: math fluency benchmark**
 - In October, district hired dr. nikki nuru who is creating the benchmark tests
 - Kindergarten: fluency in 1-5 addition (60% fluency in Feb)
 - 1st grade: fluency 1-10 addition (97% fluent in feb)
 - 2nd grade: fluency 1-20 addition & subtraction (98% fluent in feb)
 - 3rd grade: fluency 1-100
 - 4th grade: fluency 1-million
 - 5th grade: multiplication & division
 - 3-5 combined fluency: 50%
 - District has purchased FASTMATH which teachers administer 3x/week/child in classroom
 - XtraMath and Softschols, Stretch games at home for fluency practice
- **DISCUSSION: Members**
 - We have a parent seat vacant on the council. Mike will look at the tally's from the previous election to see which parent had the highest votes and would be a candidate to replace.
- **DISCUSSION: School Survey**
 - Traci asked the BOE and we may add a survey to the district survey, but not replace it.

Adjourned 8:10pm

Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- Vote on edited bylaws
- Governance Committee Training **with CAFE staff person**: request specific training in regarding to the Council's involvement in the new principal hiring process.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Thurs, 5/7 6:30pm
- Mon, 6/1 6:30pm