

**WBSS SBIT Meeting: January 30, 2007 in Mrs. Jordan's Office.**

**Members in Attendance:** Claudia Albert, Terry Jordan, Emily Noyes, Kelli Hebert, Ginny Fabianski, Lori Taylor, Elyse Stewart, Doug Rae (parent)

**Call to Order:** 5:10 p.m.

**Business Items**

**Parent Involvement Opportunities:**

- Discussed the upcoming math family night: What it will look like? What will be available for parents to explore. Parents will check students in upstairs for the science program and then go downstairs for the math night.
- Mrs. Fabianski reported that she felt that the presentation at the beginning of the year was very helpful, but she is glad that this night is going to be more of an opportunity to “explore” ways that parents can help their children.
- Mrs. Taylor asked about siblings attending and Mrs. Jordan said that she had told families that WVSS students could attend the Mad Science Program without a parent chaperone but that younger children needed to be accompanied by an adult. It was decided that this information would be sent out on K-12Now.
- Family Literacy Night? Mrs. Fabianski is still working on getting authors for this. It was decided that we would check into the availability of Leslie Bulion (Fatuma's New Cloth- a CT author) for sometime during Read Across America Week. It was also decided that activities would be held throughout the week during schools, with parent involvement being activities designed for parents to do with their children at home. A few ideas were discussed and will be brought to the Faculty for further discussion.
- Elyse is going to arrange for High School students to be readers on March 2<sup>nd</sup> in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday. We also discussed a variety of other ideas that could make this a “Spirit Week” centered on literacy activities for the students held throughout Read Across America Week.
- Marika Heughins and Tina Eisenbeis will be giving a presentation for parents about their looping/multiage classroom they are planning for the 2007-2008 school year. This parent presentation is scheduled for April 11, 2007. The two teachers will be attending our March 27<sup>th</sup> SBIT meeting as well.
- Book Chats: Terry and Lori Ligouri are putting together materials for an evening opportunity for parents and their children to get together to discuss social/emotional/behavioral issues pertinent to each gender. Discussion materials for girls have been purchased. John Glover is helping to get materials that are relevant to boys.

**2007-2008 Budget:** (Claudia)

- Mr. McKee will present the new budget at SHS at 7:00 on Thursday, February 1, 2007. This has already been presented to the Board of Education. Cost saving measures will be out-lined in detail for the public.

**Discussion Items**

**Board of Education Updates:** (Claudia Albert)

- Focus has been on the budget, which was presented two weeks ago. They had many questions and discussion around this. They will meet at 6:00 on Thursday to discuss answers to their questions prior to the meeting at 7:00.
- They are also working on policy, but this was put on hold during budget preparation.

**District Updates:** (Claudia Albert)

- 37 people at Language Arts Night. Many parents were in attendance for kindergarten.
- In May, a **tentative** District night is scheduled for both math and language arts. It will mostly focus on what parents can do with your child over the summer- two sessions will be available to allow for more than one grade level visit. It will include a preview of next year.
- We are gearing up for CMT and CAPT testing, coming in the first week in March. **Mrs. Fabianski shared some insight into the anxiety of students during the CMT times. We are going to work on getting information to pass out to families to help ease their anxieties.**

**School Updates:** (Terry Jordan)

- Claudia Albert's position will be posted tomorrow, January 31, 2007. Mr. McKee is looking for 2 parent representatives for the district who can commit to be on the selection committee.
- The playscape committee is targeting a community event hopefully for May. We discussed the process. We have requested a "supervised" installation. This means that we will put together a community group that will install this together under the supervision of a member of the company. Hopefully, students will have an active role in putting in the final design.
- Hand-held project: The first experience for 4<sup>th</sup> grade students was very successful! Two fourth grade classrooms have started to use them for word processing and using mapping software to connect to the science curriculum.
- Our school website was recognized for our school website by the "ConnectKids" website. It was highlighted during the month of January at their site.

**Parent Updates/Questions/Concerns/Feedback:**

- Feedback from Mr. Ray: He would like to have an overview about the content of the overall curriculum in the fall.
- We discussed different ideas to get information to parents about the curriculum and how to help their child at home.
- Mr. Ray also asked about targeted reading for the summer. We shared that we have sent home a book with each student, with questions, in preparation for a “book chat” on opening day. We also send summer reading lists, news about the summer programs at the public libraries and invite the children to participate in the Governor’s Reading Challenge. Each fall, the administration collects the student’s summer reading lists and we recognize our summer readers at our first Marvelous Monday in the fall.

**Possible Agenda Items for February Meeting:**

- Finalize the literacy week plans and possible parents opportunities for this
- Playscape update
- CMT update
- Budget update: Budget hearing is on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at SHS

**Decision Items**

- None

**Adjourn: 6:47 pm**