

West Vine Street School
SBIT Minutes
April 23, 2007

Members in attendance: Kathy Dreher, Sue Jones, Sam Agnello, Claudia Albert, Marika Heughins, Sandra McKenna

Members absent: Jim Taylor, John McNally, Tia Dudda

Visitors present: Matt Peel

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm.

The March minutes were approved.

SBIT Reports

Trimesters were approved at the middle schools.

BOE Report

There had been some concern about technology education at the middle schools. Claudia gave a presentation to the BOE regarding integrating technical education into the curriculum. This way, every student has the same opportunities regarding technology. There would be performance tasks for the end of specific grades (i.e. Grades 3&4 – Keyboarding/Word processing; Grades 5&6 - Multimedia presentation/PowerPoint; Grades 7&8- Web Page Development).

The budget is moving ahead. The town meeting is scheduled for 7:00pm tonight.

The middle school trimesters were discussed.

The BOE previewed the SHS play.

Financial items were also discussed.

Old Business

There was a preliminary discussion of next year's SBIT goals. Due to the large turnover of SBIT members, it was suggested that the SBIT goals be developed in the fall.

The outgoing SBIT suggests the following goals:

- 1) Continue to review the Parent Compact
 - 2) Increase two-way communication with parents
- a) Provide information about SBIT activities through a monthly SBIT newsletter distributed to parents with the school newsletter once a month.
- b) Provide opportunities for parent feedback
- 3) Make budget information available to parents, staff and community
 - 4) Review and revise new WVSS Handbook - possibly questioning parents regarding access to printer or internet to cut down on paper consumption
 - 5) Goals around transition from WVSS to WBSS

Ginny Brown would like to be one of the Co-chairs of the SBIT next year. Another co-chair will be elected in the fall. Faculty will also be invited to fill the available faculty positions on the SBIT. It was suggested that a newsletter be sent before the September or October SBIT meeting announcing that a co-chair position is vacant. Matt Peel was selected to be a parent representative on the SBIT with a two year term starting in September 2007. There is a vacancy for one more parent representative. Some interest has been expressed, but no firm commitment of availability made.

Mrs. Henry met with Beth Stewart, Leann Theodore and Mrs. McKenna regarding a mentoring program. It was suggested that citizens over 55 years old be asked to participate (possibly residents of Stone Ridge). Beth and Leann would screen applicants (interview, fingerprint,...). WVSS would have an "adopt a grandparent" program. WVSS teachers would determine how they would utilize a mentor in their own classroom (one on one, reading to the class, working with small groups, making copies,...). Ginny Brown and the WVSS faculty have been asked about their interest in this program. Two teachers have submitted a list of ideas for the program. The length of the program and the amount of time a mentor spends in a classroom will be determined. Mrs. Henry will meet with Beth and Leann before the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year.

New Business

There is a Political Action Committee, PAC, that has created a website (voteyesinstonington.info). The PAC is preparing flyers, emails and signs regarding the upcoming budget referendum.

It was decided that there will be no June SBIT meeting.

Kindergarten orientation is June 5th and 8th. In the past, Kathy Dreher briefly explained the SBIT and provided budget information to the incoming Kindergarten parents. It was suggested that one of next year's SBIT parent representatives present this information. Kathy will email Jim and John regarding this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18pm.