

Green Meadow School Council
June 6, 2005
Minutes

Present Members:

Bernadette McLaughlin, Fred Chi, Kristen Richardson, Nancy Messina, Priscilla Cotter, Hanne Mully and Kieran Joshi

Minutes: Priscilla Cotter (term expired June 2005)

Public: No public present

I: Public input: None

II: Minutes Review (May): Voted in as is

III: Current Status:

- o All School Councils are invited to the School Committee meeting on June 16th. The Councils will present their updated S.I.P.s. The meeting will take place on June 16th at 7pm in the Coolidge School.

- o Mrs. McLaughlin has next year's School Council schedule completed with the exception of October. There is a conflict with Rosh Hashana. We agreed to change it to the following Wednesday which is October 5th.

- o Kieran Joshi asked about teacher pink slips, now that the budget was approved. Mrs. McLaughlin said that besides the 3.5 staff cuts (including Kristen Richardson's leave and one retirement) that the other teachers who received pink slips would sign contracts during the last week of school.

- o End of year items
 - . Placement almost complete
 - . Looking for "real" classroom numbers
 - . Class lists will be posted by mid-August
 - . Grade 2 Stanford Math results are not yet in. MCAS results not in either.

IV: Review S.I.P.

We reviewed the sections that were reviewed the week before.

- . Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment
- . Ensure the use of a common core curriculum
- . Enhance Student/Staff Safety 1,2 and 3
- . Ensure a respectful Safe nurturing environment to promote optimum learning 1 and 2

The following are some of the changes that were noted. Mrs. McLaughlin made note of these changes on her copy of the S.I.P.

Ensure the use of a common core curriculum

1. a.
- b. random space
- c. change guide to guides

Ensure a respectful, safe, nurturing environment

1. d. add and between bike safety and Halloween
- e. add There are to several activities... ..
- g. add and across all grade levels

Enhance District Communications

Goals and Objectives

- remove 2.
 - change 3 to 2
 - change 4 to 3
1. b. change to: Upcoming events schedule including... .put three month window in parentheses
 - c. change to: parents were provided with
- 2.

Parent/Community Involvement

1. b. ST AR/EXCEL program hosted a parent student pizza dinner with bingo
- h. change ladies to volunteers

Ensure the use of common assessment practices

2. b. add.. .Assessment folders are "working folders" which include unit tests, skills tests, and DRA(define).so that materials could be added on an ongoing basis at appropriate times
- c. capitalize all Assessments
- d. undo Reading capitalization. Change looking at to....consider alternating
- e. Remove who/what/when. Move g. up to e. period after math series. Take out and decide-We are looking at when to alternate....Chapter Tests and Benchmark Tests
- f. Remove... to from help us to look. Change to scored by a teacher
- g. See e. above
- h. Remove h.
- i. Add e on grade

Ensure the use of common tools for the core

- Goals and Objectives: 3. present and future technology needs
3. a. add including website and power point presentations were presented
 - b. take out dash
 - c. add general school community
 - d. remove dash, remove in building
 - e.
 - f. remove similar
 - g. add with input from
 - h. add to ascertain what technology, replace classes with needs
 - i. add period. Remove of
 - j. remove of all
 - k.
 - l. add computer usage

m. remove capital on g

Prior to going over page 1, section 2 Mrs. McLaughlin explained the following:

There is an abundance of testing available. Math and ELA both have benchmark, skills, chapter and unit tests. We don't want to over test the kids. We're alternating skills tests with benchmark tests. The teachers watch the children's scores throughout the year in reading and ELA. They turn in the results at the end of the year. Mrs. McLaughlin showed examples of these results.

Writing assessments are done three times. They are scored by a single teacher on the first and last tests, by two on the second. The teachers liked having two teachers test so they could share information about the writing. The teachers are able to measure progress throughout the year.

DRA shows whether the students are at or below grade level. They are tested in the fall and the spring. The individual tests are in assessment folders. Each child has a folder for both Math and ELA. Decisions have been made about when to test.

It was agreed that Kindergarten would not take DRA in the fall but in the spring. First grade has a level of 12-18 as of April. Third graders are only tested if they are below grade level. They would be tested for Title One or other assistance.

Questions asked are: What are we testing?
Who are we testing?
What do we use to test?

Assessment folders follow the student from grade to grade. The following year's teacher removes the previous year's results. There is the same information for each student in every folder.

V: Public Input

Reminder, June 16th 2005 School Councils meet with School Committee at the Coolidge School at 7pm