Newcastle Elementary Site Council Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2014

The meeting was held on Monday, June 2, 2014 from 8:00 to 8:30 am in the Newcastle library. Present: Marla Newton, Jacqueline Park, Danielle Dixon, Sarah McKenzie, Eileen Rubenstein, Kim Plowman, Edana Peacock, Richard Crispo, Laura Berry, Terry Vanpelt and Kristin Cakarnis. Donna Wood attends meetings to take notes.

Agenda:

1. **PTSA Report**
   They are winding down for the year. There is a council meeting on Thursday, June 5th and a budget meeting on Wednesday, June 4th. The new board is getting up and running. Thanks to JuliAnne Diesch for taking the President position next year. Preparations are well underway for the 5th grade promotion. PTSA has some money to spend on books. Possible purchases could be for the bookroom, mentor texts or more fiction books.

2. **Community Report**
   Rich encouraged everyone to attend the town hall meeting on Tuesday, June 10th. This is a great opportunity to talk with the council reps and let them know what is working and not working in the City.

   With the passing of I-502 (legalizing marijuana) and the ruling of not being able to sell within 1,000 feet of a school or library, the City has looked into possible store locations and have determined that there are only potentially 3 locations that can be used as locations for a store. The City is trying to decide if they want to do a legal ban on stores in Newcastle or leave it alone since there is virtually no possibility of a store being able to move in. Concern is that if they do a ban they could open themselves up for possible lawsuits. Rich asked everyone’s opinion and the consensus was that the City should leave it alone since it doesn’t seem likely that a store will move in. Approximately 57% of the Newcastle community voted in favor of passing I-502.
3. **Building Report**

Staffing allocations haven't changed since last month's site council meeting. As of now classes are as follows: 1 AM and 1 PM kindergarten, 3 full day kindergarten, 4 first grade, 5 second grade, 4 third grade, 4 fourth grade and 4 fifth grade. First grade numbers continue to be monitored closely. We would need approximately 5-6 more first grade students to register before the possibility of adding another first grade class room. Jake does look at trending.

We are in the process of finishing up transfer interviews for our open AM/PM kindergarten, second and first grade class rooms. Current ISD employees aren't guaranteed that they will be awarded the transfer. They need to be a good fit for the school. If we don't take a transfer candidate the positions will be opened up to the public. With Kelly Goddard taking a leave of absence next year we are also looking to hire a fourth grade sub for next year. Question was asked if Sarah Johnson can interview as a transfer but since she is not on a full time contract she will have to apply during the outside interview process. Other Districts are in the process of hiring as well.

Another ISD Principal can put in for a transfer to Newcastle to fill Marla’s position. Transfers will be considered by the Superintendent. District will be sending out a survey to staff and the Newcastle ES community to gather information on what we are looking for in a principal. Representatives on the interview team will consist of 6 Newcastle staff, and 2 from the community.

The portable rotation plan is being presented to staff at their Wednesday meeting. Once staff has made a final decision on this schedule information will be shared out with the community. Question was asked if the portables meet code. There is no code but they do meet District standards.

4. **Follow-up on Parent Membership Positions Starting 2014-2015**

The plan of opening up site council to more parent members will become the charge of the new Principal. Advertising and applications for this will go out in the fall. Since the core group of site council members is already set up, there is time in the fall to get this up and running. No one applied to the open community rep position. Rich said he would be happy to continue in this role if no one else wants it.
5. *Reflection of Site Council for the 2013-2014 School Year*

Members have liked learning about things that happen behind the scenes. Clarification still needs to be made on how members are to be the best reps for parents. We need to bring in parent communication to get information out. Ideas discussed were: sending the meeting agenda out school wide prior to a meeting and refer people to their site council rep if they have questions, and making each grade level its own entity similar to kinder connect.

Question was asked if the site council meeting minutes are posted on the school’s website. Minutes are posted on the District’s website and Donna will check on the schools website. UPDATE: Minutes are posted on the schools website under 'About Newcastle' then 'Site Council.'

Sarah like’s Kim’s idea on developing task forces to show workflow and status of projects discussed at site council. If a google documents is created you can give access to select people so they can see the status of items.

6. *Other*

Meeting ended early due to Kathy Miyauchi arriving to speak with staff.