Site Council Minutes: October 3, 2014

Site Council Representatives:
Rich Mellish, Principal  
Kristin Cakarnis, Primary Teacher  
Sarah McKenzie, Intermediate Teacher  
Ali Webb, Specialist (absent)  
Mckenzie Tewel, Classified  
Richard Crispo, Community Rep  
JuliAnn Diesch, PTSA  
Danielle Dixon, Primary Parent  
Eileen Rubenstein, Intermediate Parent  

Guests: Trent Neugebauer (Admin Intern), Donna Wood (Principal’s Secretary)

Review of the ISD Site Council Policy – sent by email prior to meeting, no questions

Goal Setting: What will be the focus of our work this year?* Work on goals will include…

- **Studying** the area of consideration,
- **Exploring possible actions** we could take as a school in the goal areas such as advising the principal in making program or policy adjustments, engaging the community, forming Ad Hoc committees or teams and evaluating the use of or soliciting resources to meet needs.
- **Monitoring progress** in the goal areas.

At this time we identified likely goal areas of focus, but specific goals are yet to be developed.

**Goal Area 1: Developing our School Community.**
Questions: To what extent and in what manner does our school facilitate students and families making interpersonal connections? What role does or should Newcastle Elementary play in the greater Newcastle Community in terms of partnerships, community development or a connection with the history and resources of Newcastle?

**Goal Area 2: Growing our Culture of Kindness.**
Questions: How do students (and adults) learn and engage in conflict resolution in a manner that builds skills and reinforces positive values and views of learning from choices and mistakes and avoids judging others for challenges or poor choices? How do we build resiliency in our children? How do we promote safe, responsible risk-taking while addressing the rising stress and pressures on children?
*Though the focus of Site Council will be on the goals listed, the Site Council ensure that emerging issues and needs are addressed through advisory conversations, ad-hoc committees and other existing leadership structures such as the school leadership team, PTSA or existing committees.

**Actions:**
- Minutes will be generated by Rich, reviewed by the council then distributed with a news blurb to our stakeholders.
- Rich will draft a community/student/staff survey for our next meeting as a starting point for discussion on how we can study current successes and the needs and interest of our staff and community in the goal areas.
- Rich will release information and solicit applications for an additional Site Council parent representative position. This position will be geared toward broadening the perspective and representation on the Site Council. The preferred applicant will have experience with and interest in engaging with one or more of the following constituency groups:
  - Parents of students with learning or social/emotional challenges
  - English language learners
  - Families that bring diverse ethnic or cultural experiences to our community
  - Or other traditionally underrepresented groups

**Meeting Schedule:** *all meetings will be held Fridays, 8:00-8:55*

October 3, November 7, January 9, March 6, May 8