

## Site Council Minutes

3/23/09

**In attendance:** Georgia Shimkus-Administrator, Carla Fisher-Teacher, Sue Race-Teacher; Sally Rath-Support Staff, Janet DeCero-Parent, Lori Rodriguez-Parent, Kathy Anderson-Teacher; Deb Menendez-Administrator, Kelley Schneider-Teacher, Lori Davis-Parent,

**Absent:** Marni Wallace-Parent

**Facilitator** – Georgia; **Recorder** – Georgia; **Time Keeper** – Carla

### **Minutes from last meeting/Agenda:**

Sally Rath moved to approve minutes. Seconded by Carla Fisher. Motion passed 6-0

Kathy Anderson, Kelley Schneider, and Deb M were not eligible to vote on the minutes. Marni Wallace was absent.

### **Site Council Nominations and Election Procedures:**

The Council reviewed the by-laws concerning the nomination and election procedures for new parent members. There will be one position open for the 2009-2010 school year. Marni Wallace was a one-year position since she replaced Cindy Wagner whose term was due to expire in '09. Membership for parents is by nomination and election (if there are more candidates than openings). Membership is open to current MV parents. See the by-laws. A note was reviewed that will be sent home to all families regarding the opening. The note was revised with the correct dates for this year's process. Nominations should be received in the school office by May 4 and elections will take place on May 13 if needed. There will be two certified staff member openings and one support staff opening for the upcoming year.

### **Tax Credit Proposals:**

A proposal was presented requesting \$250 for a deposit for the fifth grade annual field trip to Biz Town through Junior Achievement. Kathy made the motion to approve. Seconded by Carla. Motion passed 10-0. Two other proposals were made to fund buses for two second grade teachers to take their students to other Kyrene schools to meet their pen pals. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the curriculum value of such trips and if these trips qualified as a second field trip. Site Council previously set the parameter of one field trip per grade level. The Council also felt the use of tax credit funds should be equitable. After much discussion it was decided that classroom field trips or grade level field trips needed to be considered on case-by case basis. Since children already had the expectation that they would meet their pen pals at the end of the year, the majority of the Council felt the trips should be approved. Carla made a motion that each class be approved for one bus for two hours (\$70 each class) and that staff needs to request these trips in advance of telling students about the trip in case funding is not available. Sally seconded the motion. Motion passed 9-1.

Current tax credit budget is \$22, 294.19. However, there are still funds that are being paid such as prevention services, math tutoring, and enrichment classes. Carla reminded the Council that we need to roll over funds into the 2009-2010 school year since the majority of new funds come in December.

Kelley stated that the Council needs to be fiscally responsible and use the funds to benefit the majority of the students. There is a danger that the State will eliminate the tax credit program. Deb reminded the Council that in May the Council can decide the use of up to 50% of the budget for the upcoming year.

### **Testing and Incentives:**

Georgia shared that beginning March 30 through April 6, grades 2-5 will begin the annual state testing of Terra Nova and AIMS. This is important testing since it determines our school labels through AZ Learns and our standing with No Child Left Behind. The goal is for 100% of the students to be tested. In order to make testing less stressful and to meet our goal, MV will be offering student incentives during testing week. Each day that students are at school and on time, they will be eligible to enter their name into a daily drawing. MV was able to obtain donations from local merchants such as Kyrene Lanes, Pump It Up, and Fiddlesticks. Several names will be drawn each day for the prizes. All students, grade K-5, are eligible for the drawings.

**Next Meeting:**

April 27, 2009 3:30 pm

**Room change: Rm 7 (Carla Fisher's classroom)**

Agenda items - Staffing Information with projected class sizes; update on new Principal; update on new administrative model; parent survey results; Site Council nominations; authors for '09-'10.

Other items that may come up can be emailed to Dr. Shimkus at least 24-hours before the next meeting.

Snacks – Lori Rodriguez and Sue Race