

Site Council Meeting

12-5-16

In attendance:

Jennifer Kazmar

Rachel MacDonald

Diane Abshire-Smith

Dustin Hamman

Jenn welcomed the few of us that were in attendance and then re-capped the Steel Drum Washington DC trip. The students did a great job performing as well as representing Vistancia Elementary. There was lots of sightseeing and definitely a trip that will be remembered!

The students had the opportunity to meet the Secretary of Education and Liam Beltram introduced him on Tuesday to the attendees of the National Blue Ribbon ceremony.

Jenn then mentioned that another group from the Washington DC area has invited the Steel Drum band to perform in 2017. This would be another amazing opportunity and details will follow.

The program Big Brainz has been purchased by the District for all schools for the next school year which is good news since our school was interested in purchasing it after trying it out on a trial basis.

Rachel mentioned that she stopped using the program because the K-6 lab didn't work out and the IPAD's were a pain to use. Rachel said that the kids did great with it initially and actually got a little "hooked" on it but then got frustrated when they couldn't get to the next level.

Dustin suggested that perhaps using the laptops would be an easier option for the younger grades.

The School Board has allowed a boundary committee to be formed for the Northern schools. Principals and 2 parent reps will meet every other Wednesday starting in January. Amy Franklin and Jessica Jones will be our parent reps.

New housing builds will affect us and Lake Pleasant Elementary School in the next 3-5 years. Classrooms are crowded as well as the cafeteria and playground. We still have a large number of Lake Pleasant students enrolled at our school. Jenn mentioned that Lake Pleasant has great data, but for some reason the school seems to still have an unfavorable reputation. A thought regarding student numbers was what about a split between schools.... An example would be Vistancia a K-4 school and Lake Pleasant be a 5-8 school.

Basis is starting to kick out students who are not doing as well academically and typically we will start seeing these students returning to our campus and the Holidays.

Receiving the Blue Ribbon award has brought more students enrolling at our campus as well.

We will have our Advanced Ed site visit on January 24. There will be a campus wide cleanup before their visit as well as sprucing up other areas of the school.

Dustin mentioned that he is now doing a push for Tax Credit contributions. A letter will be sent home to all families to encourage them to donate. All of the money from these contributions remain at the school and will benefit our students and teachers.

Dustin spoke about having a competition to see which class could bring in the most donations, or have it strictly by student and wanted to reward those who contributed with a fun, funded field trip. Unfortunately the field trip is now a no-go.

The next site council meeting will be in February, date to be determined.