

School Improvement Team Meeting—August 26, 2015

Attendance: Staff Representatives: Essentials--Beth Lanzy; Kindergarten--Brittany Ackerman; 1st grade--Karen Hinson-Mullis; 2nd grade--Angela McAuley; 3rd grade--Kerry Plyler; 4th grade--Corey Ackerman; 5th grade--John McAuley; Exceptional Children--Olenma Alvarez; Federal Programs--Lydia Lorenzo; TAs--Meg Bell; Administrators--Jeffery Stout and Blaire Traywick

Parent Representatives: Kindergarten--Amanda Alvarez; 2nd grade--Kelly Stegall; 3rd grade--Tiffany Pratt

2:31 Welcome and introductions

Reviewed SIT Guidelines

Nomination/voting SIT Chair and Secretary--unanimous:

SIT Chair: Corey Ackerman

Secretary: Beth Lanzy

Budget:

- The budget has not been decided by the state yet.
- BHESA is operating on 75% of what we had last year. Student enrollment is a little less this year, thus reducing funding as well. We currently have 623 students enrolled at BHESA. There is a \$121,000 difference on the bottom line of the Title 1 budget for BHESA compared to last year's budget. Title 1 budget is now being offered by per child that qualifies for free/reduced lunch amount.
- There is a large deficit for paper and copies. The copier bill was \$17,000 for copies (not paper) last year. We get a little over \$9,000 for the copier bill. This year projecting our school to spend \$18,000 which will leave us still short \$9,000 and does not include paper cost.
- Special project money has been cut to 60%. Special project money is used for Strings, Professional Development, tutoring, substitutes, and more
- BHESA's \$1.8 million dollar renovation is on hold due to other emergency needs (AC/Chiller) at other schools.

Test Scores and School Improvement Plan: Unofficial test scores were shared by Blaire Traywick.

These are her calculations only. NOTHING OFFICIAL!

- SIT representatives will share the calculations with their team. Representatives will gather input to update SIP from teams utilizing the unofficial test score results and will prioritize goals based on parent, student, and teacher surveys as well.
- Test score results most likely will show no growth and we could be an F school (Scales have changed --it was a 15 point scale last year and now it is a 10 point scale). Administration knows how hard everyone is working. There will be Walkthroughs from Administration and Curriculum staff to gain trends, patterns, support, how we can do things differently...--curriculum staff walkthroughs are not evaluative.
- Things to include for SIP are that we are departmentalizing in grades 3, 4, 5, Professional Development on struggling readers and writing for ESL, and continue to use Engage New York (3rd grade grew 13 points using Engage New York).

Kindergarten concerns: Concern#1: There is an issue in the mornings due to traffic in the Kindergarten hallway. Can there be an adult to monitor K hall with Kindergarten students getting checked in and EC students coming in from buses in the morning?

Concern #2: When Kindergarten is outside at 1:50 to walk children to buses we do not hear the announcements or bus changes. Can there be laminated cards at the buses to write the bus number on for bus changes for that specific bus? Mr. Stout said he had requested from Transportation to have signs on buses that have a bus change and was told Transportation can't do that. It will be looked into to see what can be done. Traywick asked representatives from the Transportation department again on 8/28 and we should have an answer in the near future.

1st grade concerns: None

2nd grade concerns: None

3rd grade concerns: None

4th grade concerns: Can there be hooks added near the back stairwell in the 2 story hallway to hang ball bags so the bags do not have to be carried to lunch? We cannot add or hang things under stairwell due to Fire Marshal rules/fire code. You can use the Lost and Found hooks for the ball bags near the cafeteria.

5th grade concerns: Can more 4th grade teachers help with front car dismissal? Teachers can divide and when done taking to buses come around to help car riders.

EC concerns: Essential hall noise level is loud during transition. (Adults and children) Please remember there are classes on that hallway.

TA concerns: Kindergarten students are running under the slide on the playground towards other students on swings. Can a board be put there? A board cannot be put there as it could violate code. Kids need to be aware of swings. Cones however could be placed on the ground to separate and deter students from going that direction.

Can TAs stop going to Essentials? TA's could use the time to prepare for lessons, pull books.... Mrs. Traywick will need to follow up on this question. At this time, no. We may be able to wean down to two-three specific Essential classes at a later time, but for now... However, all TAs must get their required lunch and break.

Essentials concerns: Are we doing PBIS as before, utilizing tickets and incentives, and the clipboards? Yes, we are doing PBIS like last year until new system goes into effect. Question was asked if Essentials are using the purple slips for behavior--answer is yes.

Federal Programs concerns- None

Parents concerns-None

Next meeting-Sept. 16th (Look for emails and do not wait until last minute to get information for SIP)
Agenda items need to be given to Corey Ackerman

Adjourned: 3:20