

## Shiloh SIT Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2013

### In attendance

Mr. Spencer	Mrs. Aldredge
Mrs. Guzman	Mrs. McGinniss
Mrs. Contafio	Mrs. Wheeler
Mrs. Dunn	Mrs. Lightner
Mr. Hart	Mrs. Diane Hasty
Mr. Klutz	Mrs. Long
Mrs. Wagner	

### Introduction

Members were introduced and told which grade level or special area they represented.

### Staff Morale Goal-

Shiloh will increase its teacher morale rating as reflected on the UCPS Teacher Survey.

Strategies: Positive feedback from admin.; team building exercises, increased activities through Shiloh social committee, Popcorn Fridays, staff recognition resulting in early leave passes/free jeans days, special parking spots, etc. Shiloh trivia, and contests. Staff gifts at the start of the year (shirts, backpacks, water bottles); positive praise from walkthroughs; continued "Shiloh Night Outs". Administration covering lunch duty for teachers, and increased PTA involvement and support.

The teachers agreed that the teacher morale issue seemed to be reflective of external factors such as the state freeze on teacher and teacher assistant salaries and the continued threat of teacher assistant cuts. The suggested strategies are all positive examples of what our administration and PTA have given to our staff and it is recognized and appreciated. It was suggested that administration could do small trinkets such as stress balls and candy periodically in the teachers' boxes. Mr. Spencer will talk with Brenda about purchasing items such as these to randomly place in the boxes to brighten teachers' day.

Our new PTA board has started off the year strong by coordinating community events already. There will be a Monkey Joe's family night next week, and a Chic-Filet night shortly after.

Shiloh had one of the lowest teacher turnovers for last year. We recognize that teachers love being here, but the demands of the profession along with the pay freeze is difficult. The SIT has added the staff morale goal to our School Improvement Plan. The strategies suggested will continue to be a focus of the administration to boost staff morale.

### **Grandparents Day**

Mrs. Klutz proposed that all grade levels have an invite to grandparents to come visit their children for lunch, or any other type of program the grade level decides upon. She would like these visits to take place during the book fair. She has seen this done at other schools, and the grandparents are excited and eager to purchase their grandchildren books from the book fair. The team members will discuss with their grade level this possibility and will get back with Mrs. Klutz concerning this proposal.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Send-Off**

It has been suggested that the 5<sup>th</sup> graders will have a celebration at the end of the year that would take place after school hours. The original suggestion was a "dance". The team discussed different parameters of what type of event would fit best here at Shiloh. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade team is on board with a celebration, or "send-off". The SIT members agreed that starting this tradition would be fun for the children, and keeping it with only 5<sup>th</sup> grade makes it super special. We will discuss this idea with the PTA and Mr. Spencer will share the vision of what we believe the celebration would entail. For example, students would stay after school making the hours be from 2:00-4:00, refreshments could be provided, we would have to have ucps approved volunteers to help manage the students.

### **Dress Code**

It is written in the agenda handbook that certain shoes are not allowed such as sandals and Crocs. The question was brought up, "What about the shoes that look like sandals- but are for running?" We all agreed that as long as the shoes were covering the toes, and had appropriate material for walking/running then they are considered appropriate for the dress code.

### **AfterSchool Clubs**

It was discussed to have information sent home in writing to the parents of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students regarding the description of after school clubs that are available for the 2013-2014 school year. This information is on the website, but is not currently updated. Also some parents may not have access to the computer or internet, and this will allow them to view the information. Mr. Spencer will send out an email that will ask club sponsors to email Mr. Greene specifics about their clubs. Mr. Greene will update our Moodle page with current information. We can also send information home to parents with the club specifications. It was suggested that when it is time to apply for clubs the applications could be placed at a central location in the school so that parents and students will have easy access to the forms.

**SIT dates**

**Oct. 21st**

**Jan. 13th**

**March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**June 2nd**