

Delta Elementary Community Council
December 14, 2010

Mr. Noah called the meeting to order.

Minutes from the November 17, 2010 meeting were read by Jodi Smith. The minutes were approved.

We are getting more and more adult volunteers.

Carol Nielsen is working on a state committee to develop lesson plans for each of the grade levels. They have one more meeting in January, and then they will be sending these lesson plans out. Mrs. Nielson told us that it was mentioned in one of these meetings that the kids between 20-30 years old are called the millennial generation because their world has been changing on a daily basis. If we don't get into their world and understand these children, we will lose them. We have to use media and technology because it is their world

We have microphones in all but two classrooms. Before we purchased these, some children had a difficult time hearing the teacher. A microphone helps those students who are at the back of the room and provides mobility for the teacher.

Teachers have been asked to look at the data and make requests for their needs. They were to state how the requested items will help achieve their academic goals. Mr. Prince says that his friend got a grant for buzzers on desks to make responses to the teacher. With these devices he knows instantly who has the right answer or not.

Bottom line: we need to get the kids involved.

Teachers would like to have at least 4 computers in their rooms. Why? Tests, research, and centers.

Question: Didn't we use capital outlay money for those computers? Projectors should be connected this Christmas break. Mr. Noah understands that the Computers are in storage and waiting to be installed. Teachers and Mr. Noah have offered to help install. Each room is already hard wired. We are checking on computers for literacy room for the January testing.

Question: Did we get extra money when the schools were combined? Yes.

We have five Interactive Whiteboards in the school. These whiteboards cost about \$2000 each. The teachers want these interactive whiteboards, but they also want to be trained in how to use them.

Statewide: Every Elementary School needs to give the DIBELS. Letters will go home for students that are not on grade level. Parents will be informed as to what intervention is being used to help their child progress toward grade level status.

All students need to be challenged. Some students just hurried through the test and marked any answer. These students showed that they were not progressing and in some cases their score declined. As long as the kids are progressing, everything is fine. Students need to make effort in school work and tests. Mr. Noah will be calling students in to talk to them if they aren't progressing or just marking any answer.

The following comment was made, "My daughter loves school, but because of a few students, she comes home every night and says I don't want to go back. When they have a substitute, she loves it because the substitute actually asks if she can help this daughter."

Mrs. Nielsen says that they are trying to address the needs of high students in accelerated reading groups.

MAPS reports now give a target goal. These reports tell if a student meets, exceeds, or misses their goal and by how many points either way.

Our children are expected to perform well. It all comes back to the kids needing to be involved. Discipline problems decrease when children are involved.

Last year the school failed in reading. In the past our reading has been at 88%, but we have dropped to 77%. The state as a whole failed in reading. We need to make adjustments. We have to do something, not sit on our laurels. Every child needs to be successful. We have good teachers, but we are going to have to "knuckle" down in get their world and help them.

The lower grade computer lab is only being used two periods a day. Mrs. Burton may begin using it for writing.

Mrs. Burton: Persuasive writing is being moved to Kindergarten, where before it was taught in third grade. The term argument is now being used as part of persuasive writing. Mrs. Burton is using an OREO graphic organizer. O stands for opinion, R is reason, E stands for explanation, and O is opinion restated. Students are using persuasive writing to write letters to Santa. They are giving him a reason or argument as to why they should receive the gift they are asking for. When students complete their Santa letters, they will write to Mr. Noah persuading him to change something at the school.

School Routing Plan: The west parking lot will be parallel parking for pick up and drop off. We will also utilize the church parking lot. Teachers will park in the center of the west parking lot. We are thinking about putting parking stalls at the front of the building. However, this is not to be used before or after school. At that time patrons are to use the west parking lot.

Mr. Noah has to fill out extensive papers on Risk Management.

Capital Outlay: We need carpeting and painting. We also need to repair water damage and holes in lawn. Windows need to be replaced, and the planters out front are falling apart. Mr. Noah walked around the building. He stated, "We have good buildings. We just have to maintain them." Adjustments can be made at the district office for cooling and heating.

Question: At recess how many teachers are on duty? There are three on the 1st and 2nd playground and two on the 3rd and 4th side. What about when they are waiting for the bus? There are outside teachers, several from both schools.

We are required to put the minutes from our Community Council Meetings on the website. We would also like to include information from the Arts Council and Literacy on that site. The software is much easier to use than it was in the past, so we would like to control it at our school. Tammy Bean would like to do it, but the district must agree to allow her access.

Each member of the committee was given a report card that the district office plans to begin implementing next year.

We will adjourn until January. We will follow up on our computers at that time.