

Delta Elementary Community Council Meeting

30 August 2012

2:45 p.m.

Welcome: Mr. Noah brought the meeting to order. Those in attendance were David Noah, Carol Pratt, Darla Bliss, Margie Lisonbee, Tammie Bean, and DeAnn Burton.

Election: Mr. Noah reminded us that we need more parent volunteers than teachers. We also need to vote on a chairperson, vice chair, and secretary.

Trustland Purchases: We were given a list of approved Trustland purchases and asked to prioritize our needs.

Last year our district was audited. There was a complaint about our holding money from one year to the next in order to make large purchases.

Teachers have stated that the nonfiction books purchased with Trustland money last year was money well spent.

Our parents were asked to talk to others in the community to see what we can do to improve our school.

Goals: We were instructed to make our goals specific, measureable, realistic, and time based.

NWEA Results: Mrs. Burton shared the results of our Spring NWEA Assessment. She stated that even though there was good growth, there were many students who did not meet a proficient level.

Mr. Noah suggested that teachers pause the test when students show signs of frustration or exhaustion.

Mrs. Burton discussed the need for building stamina in reading. This would help students continue the test without burning out so quickly.

Technology: Mr. Noah informed the group about the technology challenges we are experiencing at Delta Elementary. Many teachers have had trouble with email, interactive whiteboards, and sound systems.

He also discussed Chrome Books. They resemble iPads; however, they use Google apps. They cost about \$299 each. We decided to not purchase these Chrome Books at this time because they are not well known and reviews are not readily available.

Mr. Noah also shared information about a state grant for \$3 million of technology. DES was the only school who applied for this grant. The problem was that they wanted to tear out all of our interactive whiteboards and start new, and the new technology wouldn't connect with our district system.

enVision Math: Our new math program is challenging. When Mr. Noah recognized the frustration of DES teachers, he called Sheila Sheriff from Fillmore Elementary. This is her third year with the program. She said the first year she wanted to pull her hair out. Mrs. Sheriff said to tell the teachers to take it easy and it will come. She said her students made huge gains. In order to avoid frustrating parents, she recommended that teachers not send home work unless students can do it independently.

Mrs. Pratt has some frustrations with the math. She said it doesn't seem to have any consistency. Carol said it teaches one concept the first day. The next day it moves on to a new concept, and the following day a new concept is introduced. She said, "There doesn't seem to be any review."

Miss Bean said she used reteaching before the test. The results were better than anticipated.

Mrs. Carol Nielson and Mrs. Deb Fowles both informed Mr. Noah that this was the first day they felt good about the program.

Mr. Noah shared a comment by Anita Archer. Dr. Archer said, "With such great math scores, why change the program."

Web Page: Tammie Bean has created a web page, Face Book page, and a Twitter account for Delta Elementary Bulldogs. Parents can subscribe and keep up on

what is happening at Delta Elementary. The school can send messages reminding parents of things like picture day.

Stress: Mr. Noah stated, “If teachers are frustrated and stressed they can’t do the job they are hired to do.” He is trying to reduce stress so teachers can do their job.

School Lunch: Carol Pratt asked if school lunch has changed. She mentioned that her girls do not enjoy school lunch like they used to. The group was informed that the food is quite bland since they have had to cut out much of the sugar and salt used in the past.

Students are encouraged to eat more fruit and vegetables. In the past students could refuse anything but the main course. Now students can refuse the main course, but they must take either the fruit or the vegetables.

Adjournment: We adjourned at 3:54 p.m.