

VAN NUYS MIDDLE SCHOOL
A California Partnership School
SHARED DECISION MAKING COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: 11/18/2008

TIME: 3:15 P.M.

LOCATION: Family Center

In Attendance: Brian Teixeira (**Secretary**), G. Kommer (**Time keeper**), J. Phillips (**Process Observer**), C. Harris, A. Mansur, S. Garcha, A. Barner, D. Phillips, K. Koppel, J. Clemmensen, M. Hayes, R. Rosales

MINUTES

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 by Dr. Barner.

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes were adopted as submitted.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL:

The agenda was approved with modifications; Action item E was added to the agenda. The item concerns asbestos abatement. Mr. Rosales will bring the item to the committee.

IV. STUDENT LEADERSHIP:

- Mr. Phillips reported that the student presidential election went well. Mrs. Brewer-Petrossian has all of the data, which will be published. Many students took part.
- The canned food drive is going well. Many students are participating. So far three parents have expressed a desire for a turkey.
- The December Birthday Jamboree will take place on December 12th.
- Santa head wear was proposed for Dec. 19 and approved by the committee

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ms. Koppel presented her idea for a more cohesive school-wide incentive program. The committee discussed various aspects of the proposal, made modifications to the reward structure. Dr. Barner will refine the Tuck-It-In incentive specifics.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

- Mr. Clemmensen reported that there were no new items concerning budget. The money is frozen at the moment except for emergency expenditures.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Mr. Teixeira reported that the data PD by department went well. Mrs. Phillips ventured that we may need more training to know what to do with the data. The process is on-going and we will hopefully build capacity in effectively using the data. Mr. Teixeira opined that it is important to continue moving the school culture to a collaborative effort in order to move forward.

EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Mrs. Phillips reported that we can not buy any new equipment at this time because of the budget situation.

SCHEDULING COMMITTEE:

- Mr. Banke would like two items added to the schedule: a potato throwing competition at nutrition on November 19, and a chariot race on November 20. These items do not need our approval.
- On January 26-28 we will be holding grade-level World's Finest Chocolate homeroom assemblies. Reward options were discussed. The Prankster Pal will not be awarded. The Free Dress Pass will be replaced by an early out pass.
- Mrs. Lundbergh would like to schedule Explorer testing on January 27. The committee concluded that this date is hard to accommodate because this is the end of the semester. Mrs. Lundbergh briefed the committee on the specifics. She will be speaking to the 8th grade teachers about the assessment. One complication involves the ELA and Math Periodic Assessments happening at that time. The committee resolved that the current proposed date cannot be accommodated. Alternate dates will be explored.

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

- Mr. Hayes reports that the number of tardy students is down considerably since last year. October referrals were up, but November referrals are down. We are having a 75% attendance rate for after school detention. Random metal detection wandings has begun and will be on-going.

ACTION ITEMS:

- There will be a homeroom reading competition over the Christmas break. Dr. Barner will send specifics of the competition to everyone.
- Asbestos abatement: Mr. Rosales reported that we currently have workers on campus after the school day is over doing asbestos abatement work. Work will end on February 5, 2009.

VII. SETTING OF NEXT MEETING:

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:30. Our next meeting will be on December 16, 2008.