

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

DATE: 02/17/2008

TIME: 3:15 P.M.

LOCATION: Family Center

In Attendance: Dr. Barner, D. Phillips, B. Teixeira, A. Mansur, J. Clemmensen, C. Harris, George Kommer, K. Koppell, R. Rosales, M. Hayes, J. Phillips, F. Blanco, C. Tizcareno, Y. Walker, H. Kolb

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 January meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL: Several items were added to the agenda. The agenda was approved as modified.

IV. STUDENT LEADERSHIP:

There will be a Birthday Jamboree on March 17 at lunch.

Dr. Barner expressed her appreciation of the recent efforts by Student Leadership.

Twin Day is tentatively set for May 15.

Mr. Kommer proposed that students not be allowed any writing on their St. Patrick's Day dress.

Students are allowed to dress in green, with green hair.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Kommer reminded the committee that a decision was made that all bulletins from the office must utilize both sides of the paper when required and only one half of the paper when possible, in order to conserve paper. Dr. Barner directed that a notice would be put in the bulletin so that all staff would be aware.

Mr. Kommer asked that the custodial staff make a more concerted effort to pick up recycle-intended paper in the proper container.

The recycling of cans and plastics is presenting a problem so far as scheduling is concerned.

Materials are piling up because there is no one person or one group taking responsibility for the job.

The committee resolved that the recycling program would be continued, however we recognize that there is no acceptable way to generate a profit under our current set of procedures. There appears to be no acceptable method of accomplishing both recycling and profiteering at this time.

Mr. Rosales will check with the plant manager to clarify when recyclables are picked up.

Mr. Mansur proposed that we increase the number of trashcans on campus. Mr. Kommer volunteered that some of the after school students are creating issues with trash dispersal. Dr. Barner will see about getting more trashcans on campus.

Mr. Clemmensen reports that the Marquee has been ordered, although we have no solid anticipated date of delivery and installation.

The new computers for the C141 computer lab have been ordered.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Mr. Clemmensen had nothing to report.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Mr. Teixeira reported that the CST preparation PD held in both computer labs appear to have gone well. Teachers had the opportunity to look at the released test questions of another discipline and look for commonalities in strategies, texts, etc. across the curriculum.

EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

Mrs. Phillips reports that the Title I copier is being occupied by support staff at the expense of classroom teacher needs.

SCHEDULING COMMITTEE:

PHBAO conferencing has been changed to March 19, from 3:30-6:30, in response to some teacher needs to attend a BITSA meeting.

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Hayes reports that we recently had a School Discipline Committee meeting. Uniforms continue to be an issue. The number of tardy students has started to go up. There is a general consensus that the large majority of students are doing a great job following the rules concerning being on time to class and tucking in their uniform shirts.

Mr. Mansur commented that we still continue to see the same students engaging in disruptive practices.

Dr. Barner expressed concern that parents are getting an impression that VNMS is having a problem with safety. She advocated for teachers being ambassadors to the community by being more aware and by conveying the positive to parents and students.

The committee briefly discussed student earring issues. Dr. Barner suggested that the item needs to be discussed in preparation for the next school year.

INTERVENTION – CORE SUBJECTS

Mr. Kommer suggests that there should be some kind of intervention for students who are advanced and proficient whose scores are falling. These students do not currently qualify for any kind of Saturday or after school intervention. Dr. Barner suggested that those students can attend Study Island sessions after school with Mr. Teixeira. Mr. Kommer agreed that was a good idea.

ACTION ITEMS:

A new law was recently passed allowing parents to pull students out of Special Education classes at anytime.

We currently have an opening for the Bilingual Coordinator and Title One Coordinator for next year. Our Earthquake Preparedness Drill has been scheduled for the week of April 20, 2009.

VII. UPCOMMING

CST Schedule: The CST will take place from May 11 – May 15.

VIII. SETTING OF NEXT MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 4: 20. Our next meeting is set for March 17, 2009.