

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

**DATE: 12/15/2009    TIME: P.M. 3:10**  
**LOCATION: Family Center**

**In Attendance:** G. Kommer, B. Teixeira, C. Harris, A. Barner, C. Harris, T. Tapia, S. Trujillo, D. Phillips, J. Clemmensen, K. Lundbergh, M. Hayes, E. Schroepfer, M. Crowe

**MINUTES**

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Barner at 3:11.

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The meeting minutes of 11/17/09 were approved as written.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL:

The agenda was approved as written.

IV. STUDENT LEADERSHIP:

Mrs. Schroepfer, Ms. Tapia, and Ms. Trujillo informed the committee of the following upcoming events:

- 12/17 Toy Drive Ends
- 12/11 Holiday Dance CANCELLED
- 12/16 Birthday Jamboree during lunch
- 12/17 Mrs. Schroepfer will be hosting the Cultural Nutrition Feast on 12/17/09 in room S232
- 12/17 6:30pm Holiday Festival (Leadership helping)
- 12/18 Holiday Headwear Day
- 1/15 New Year's Dance
- 1/18 MLK Day of Service (selected students working)
- 1/20 Birthday Jamboree during lunch
- 2/12 Valentine's Dance (Dr. Barner will work)

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- We have ordered the new copy machines. The bond paper is here and will be distributed after the holidays.
- Assemblies were held with eighth graders who had 1 to 3 fails. Parents were also invited.
- Mr. Kommer suggested that we hold one or two more meetings with the eighth graders and their parents to stress our commitment, and to try to increase student involvement.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- Intervention during STAR. Modules have been established to provide support to students who are Basic in ELA and/or Math. What's Happening articles will be utilized, as well as other types of reading. Any ongoing reading programs/strategies should not be impacted.
- Mrs. Philips objected to teachers being told what to do instead of having a voice in the decision making process. She also said that we need to know how big the classes are. Student mobility may also present an issue. Dr. Barner stated that if we didn't have everything in place by the target start date, January 11, then we would wait. However, the District is pushing hard to make schools move forward.
- Mrs. Lundberg reported that the intervention classes will be capped at 25.
- We have lost another classified position (cafeteria). There will be other cuts/losses as we move forward.
- Mr. Clemmensen reported on the STEPS (Students, Teachers, Education, Parents, Support) program. He predicts we will raise ten to twenty thousand dollars a year through fundraising activities. The STEPS committee will meet the first Wednesday of every month.
- Mr. Clemmensen reported that the MLK day is happening. We will be conducting assemblies in preparation for the day.

## VII. BUDGET COMMITTEE:

- Dr. Barner reported that we do not have IMA and QIEA money available to give departments as in the past. However, she has been able to fill all teacher requests thus far.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Action research is limping along. Personality problems and Facilitator confusion are negatively impacting the process. Math and English 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> are just starting to operate smoothly. Eighth grade for both disciplines are problematic. There appears to be a push on to kill the action research process. We will be taking a closer look at the process when we return from the break. Mrs. Phillips suggested that we may need to reevaluate how we are conducting our professional development this year.

## EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- The copy machines have been purchased.

## SCHEDULING COMMITTEE:

- We had a brief discussion concerning the change in department/team meeting times. There are a few minor issues with the change. We will be meeting in department/teams (in that order) for the rest of the Year.

## DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

- Mr. Hayes reports that there is a spike in referrals directly after nutrition. Uniform violations are down. Dr. Barner commented that the discipline committee meets monthly, so there is no need for a long conversation concerning the data at our faculty meetings. We had a conversation about tuck-it-in success/difficulties. It was agreed that there are ongoing difficulties with compliance, but it is not overwhelming.

## INFORMATION

- Phase 2 implementation Plans for LAUSD MAX
- RTI Belief Survey. The deadline is December 18.
- Blue Ribbon Homeroom Competition. Tell the kids. If teachers don't start using Study Island, Dr. Barner says that she will stop paying for the program. There will be a two-hour paid training offered in the near future.
- MLK Day of Service
- School-wide goals. Our API is 693. We need to set a goal and communicate it to the community.

## VII. SETTING OF NEXT MEETING:

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, January 26, 2010.