

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

DATE: 03/15/2011 TIME: P.M. 3:15
LOCATION: Family Center

In Attendance: B. Teixeira, A. Barner, J. Clemmensen, D. Phillips, M. Hayes, M. Crowe, K. Villa
H. Kolb, I. Ogbuagu, J. Dubois, K. Koppel, R. Rosales, C. Phu, C. Harris, K. Chin, E. Banke.
J. Roldan

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 February 25, 2011 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL: The agenda was approved with slight modified.

IV. STUDENT LEADERSHIP ISSUES/DATES:

Items:

- Birthday Jamboree:
- Leadership T-shirts: Students will be able to wear at Magic Mountain.
- Spring Dance, April 14: This proposed date for the Spring Dance conflicts with the PITS show; therefore, the event will have to be re-scheduled.
- Leadership will be going to Knots Berry Farm on May 15 from 7:00 A.M. – 8:30 P.M.
- Leadership will conduct a fund raiser for the earthquake victims in Japan. Students will pick up donations during home room on Tuesday, March 22.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Shields and emergency toilets were sent to all classrooms. Each kit has 35 bags.
- The current rate of tardy lock-outs will be continued: Some students are starting to game the system. The lock-outs will be discontinued on Tuesdays. The lock-outs will be announced on the Main Office white board.
- Debrief from 8th grade free dress: Our first free dress day worked for committee members. Students liked the opportunity. Mr. Hayes reported that a good number of 8th graders responded positively by serving their detentions. Only two students who did not deserve the privilege tried to free-dress. The wrist bands worked. Overall, this was a positive experience for students and teachers. We will modify as we move ahead. We will try again at the 10-week report card while expanding to accommodate a greater number of students.
- CST Academic Awards Assemblies will be held on March 31 with no impact on the bell schedule: Teachers will get seating charts and the bell schedule ahead of time. Three grade-level assemblies will be conducted. No schedule changes will be needed.
- Debrief of Anti-Bullying Assemblies: Committee members expressed opinions that the assemblies were very well done. The presentation may have been too long. Dr. Barner reported that she intends to have the presenter back to present to teachers sometime in the future.

- Mr. Crowe reported that we would like to continue with a pledge. The PE Department will be asked to make time to conduct the session with students (survey/information) as well as having students sign the pledge.
- Debrief from Read Across America: Student participation was a little low. Also, the CST 7th writing test took a lot of our attention. This was also our first try, so we should see gains as we move ahead.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

- Mr. Clemmensen reports that Dr. Barner has been successful in responding to teachers' materials needs. We do need to replace some laptop batteries, and we also need to budget for the 8th grade barbecue.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

- The Special Education Department presented to the faculty on Special Education law and successful practices for differentiation. The 6th and 7th grade ELA teachers met on March 8 and 14 for a day of collaboration and planning for the rest of the year leading up to the CST. Eighth grade teachers will meet on Monday, March 21.

EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Our Xerox machine is working again.

SCHOOL SAFETY:

- Our March referrals are down from last year. The 6th grade and 7th grade numbers are down. The 8th grade numbers are up. Mrs. Phillips reports that some teachers have commented that their calls for assistance with student behavior/emergencies are not getting a response. Dr. Barner responded that she needs specifics from teachers so that corrections can be made. All teachers need a response. All support staff are generally available to assist teachers in these instances.
- Mrs. DuBois reported that there are a few students continue to be highly disruptive. There was some discussion but no resolution.

SCHEDULING COMMITTEE:

- The BMX presentation has been changed to Monday, March 21 from 8:50 – 9:37.

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

VII. ACTION ITEMS:

- CST May 9 – May 17/ make-ups until May 27

VIII. INFORMATION

SETTING OF NEXT MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 26.