

**Audubon Elementary School
Local School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 25, 6:30 p.m., Science Lab**

Call to Order 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: John Price, Ellen Ericson, Barbara Kantrow, Jody Ebstein, Diane Berin, Brendan Gilboy, Linda McBride, Robin Kain

Absent: Patty Jones, Brian Ortiz, Mark Ferrante

Approval of Agenda

Jody motioned to move “Update on Math Differentiation” to after “Public Participation” on the Agenda. Brendan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of November and December Minutes

Robin moved to approve the November Minutes. Diane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jody moved to approve the December Minutes. Robin seconded. The motion passed. Linda abstained from voting because she was absent for the December meeting.

Review of LSC Meeting Procedures

Ellen announced the procedures for public participation at LSC meetings. If persons attending the meeting would like to comment on agenda items they must sign their name on a sign-up form. Each person may have 2 minutes to comment on an agenda item after the LSC has discussed same. If persons attending the meeting would like to comment on non-agenda items they must sign a sheet entitled “Public Participation.” During the Public Participation portion of the meeting said persons can have 3 minutes to discuss a non-agenda topic.

Public Participation

Mark Ahlheim stated he was disappointed that the LSC approved the Friends of Audubon (FOA) proposal to hold an expanded version of the Family Fun Fair this year. Mr. Ahlheim is unhappy with the partnership between FOA and Star Events as the event would now serve alcohol and run until 10p.m. Mr. Ahlheim suggested that there are other ways to engage the community such as holding a farmer’s market, partnering with “Friends of Clark Park” or working with the Chamber of Commerce on ways to bring new businesses to Roscoe Village. Mr. Ahlheim suggested that profits made from the fair go to the Endowment Fund to serve the long term needs of the school and community.

Principal Price stated that one reason the decision to partner with Star Events was made was to help staff the event as Audubon volunteer resources are limited. Further, an event is planned in March to help recruit more parents and community members to become involved with the school.

Update on Math Differentiation

Julie Sajovec is the Math Differentiation Specialist at Audubon. This year she implemented two new programs. First, she implemented the Jiji software program for 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade students. Jiji has gotten very positive feedback from students, teachers and parents. Another new program is a differentiated math program to benefit accelerated students in 1-4th grades. Between 4 and 6 students are taken out of class once a week to work on higher level problem solving with volunteers. The students are also given more challenging problems to work on at home. Also, Ms. Sajovec has just received a grant to purchase math board games that can be checked out and played at home.

It is uncertain whether Ms. Sajovec's position will be sustainable next year due to funding so she is focusing on setting up programs that can be implemented without her.

This year accelerated 8th graders take algebra before school. Next year this algebra class will be included within the regular school day.

Budget and Internal Accounts Transfers

Principal Price requested that the LSC approve the following:

1. Spend \$2400 for Unicoi Art Studio classes in the after school program
2. Spend \$1560.32 for staff appreciation shirts from account #2-8620, Gust Foundation
3. Spend \$9374.40 for Leveled Literacy Intervention for grades K-3 from account #2-8620, Gust Foundation

Linda moved that the LSC approve the above expenditures. Barbara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Principal Price requested that the LSC approve the following SGSA Transfer:

Transfer \$30,500 from SGSA rollover account 225.57940.119021.000703 to 225.55005.119010.000703 to allow for the purchase of additional technology equipment for students and staff in order to support the Technology SIPAAA goal.

Brendan moved to approve the above transfer. Robin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Report on Lakeview High School

A meeting of local LSC representatives and Aldermen was held at Lakeview High School on January 7, 2010. Attendees at the meeting were shown a video about the school and had the opportunity to ask questions about the school and its programs.

Review of Winter Assessment/Student Progress

NWEA tests were given to students in 2-8th grades in the fall and winter. Principal Price has created a spreadsheet that summarizes NWEA winter assessment data. The spreadsheet measures the growth of each student in the school, and then averages that growth for each grade level, classroom and

several support programs currently being utilized for students. The school-wide results indicate that Audubon is moving students forward at a faster pace than other schools nationally. Our average student moved from the 48th percentile to the 50th increasing their performance by 2 percentage points. Results are being used to identify superior practices that should be utilized throughout the school and to evaluate programs that have been planned to accelerate student achievement. For example, the after school program saw gains for students that were double those shown for the school as a whole, providing evidence that the after school literacy instructional program is working to help students catch up to their peers. Teachers have copies of the data and can use it to make specific instructional plans.

Parents will get a copy of their child's test results at report card pick-up.

Review of SIPAAA Timeline

Focus groups will meet the first week of February to discuss goals for the SIPAAA. Each focus group will be about 75 minutes long.

Reports – Principal/APTP/FoA

Principal Report

Principal Price prepared and distributed his "Principal's Report." Highlights include the following:

The design team for the H.S. proposal submitted a 30 page instructional and financial plan to the Board on December 18, 2009. Leasing space appears to be the only option for the High School and Audubon is looking at possibilities to lease space in proximity to the elementary school.

Teachers will complete the winter literacy assessment for all students in grades K-3 prior to report card pick-up.

The school will begin using a new Leveled Literacy Intervention program for students that are below academic standards.

The 8th grade class will be taking an overnight trip to Milwaukee.

Audubon hired an additional special education teacher, Ms. Katie Clark.

A long term substitute that is fluent in Spanish has been hired to serve as a bilingual teacher while the school's bilingual coordinator is absent on medical leave.

Upper grade science teacher, Sarah O'Dowd, is back from her maternity leave.

It is anticipated that attendance will increase by 30 students next year. Total student population for PK-8th grade in 2011 is projected to be 530.

Audubon received a record 375 applications from students outside the neighborhood. Approximately 273 applications are for kindergarten.

Principal Price reported that Audubon has received a threatening letter by an anonymous person. Principal Price is working with the FBI and local police. These authorities have not perceived any specific threats towards Audubon. Copies of the letter have also been sent to other local agencies.

Mr. Fay reported that in case Audubon needed to do a mass evacuation, the students would be taken to Lane Technical High School. Further, a security alert will be going out to the school community regarding an incident where a student was chased by unknown adults while on his way home from school recently.

Adjourn

Jody motioned to adjourn the meeting, Diane seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 8:40 p.m.