

MORNINGSIDE ELEMENTARY
COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2009

The recorder was turned on at 1:55 pm and Karianne Prince welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present were Joan Bramble, Cindy McCandless, Michael Porter, Karianne Prince, Emily Allison, Karen Duzy, Michelle Jones and Chelle Brain.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Mrs. Bramble presented the overall school budget as is required by the legislature. She stated that there is a possibility of cuts for the next year, but the Granite district is committed to protect the student/teacher ratio as much as possible. The budget is on a separate sheet. Mrs. Bramble said that fundraisers (Sally Foster, entertainment books, donations, etc.) brought in approximately \$4500. This money was put towards AR books and fieldtrips.

The community council will have two positions open for spring elections. The newsletter and school website have this announcement along with a declaration of candidacy form. Parents have until February 3, 2009 to turn in their forms. At our next meeting, we will make the necessary arrangements for the voting box at SEP conferences.

There were some budget changes for the QTSA and Trustland funds. Mrs. Bramble needed to utilize some of the Trustlands money to pay for our contract teacher. The school is paying for .5 and the community council is paying for .16-.2 of her salary. This teacher helps with classes from the splits. Some of the CDT money was switched to the QTSA budget, as a contract teacher can only come out of Trustland funds.

Our QTSA money also helps pay for an hourly aide to assist with reading interventions. This aide helps with the second grade readers in splits. She uses Corrective Reading which ties in with our Open Court reading program. We should see some improvements in our CRT scores and Dibbles testing. There are interventions also for fourth, fifth and sixth graders in place. Mrs. Prince asked if it were possible to keep the same aide for next year, as she is now familiar with these programs. Mrs. Bramble answered that it would depend upon budget, needs and uses. She also stated that this program is a good use of our QTSA funds rather than a lot of little projects. Mrs. McCandless and Mr. Porter agreed.

Our mid-year SSP meeting will be in February. Mrs. Bramble and Mrs. Prince (chair) will attend this. Mrs. Bramble felt it would be easy to gather the data needed for the review.

There were good reviews from the fall CDT classes. Mrs. Prince will write a letter to thank the instructors on behalf of the Community Council.

Mrs. Jones reported on the Granite district tour in December. She learned about so many cool programs that are in the district at the various schools. The dual language immersion program that is at William Penn was particularly impressive. Mrs. Jones had folders from each school highlighted, that explained their programs. She stated that she didn't make it to the GTI but they utilized their space really well. There was one program that merged bioengineering and technology and had high school students working with DNA. Many of these programs start in ninth grade. The school district is doing some PR to get the information out about these and other great things happening.

In other business, Mrs. Brain asked about some better snow removal equipment for our custodian. Mrs. Gutke does an incredible job with the resources available to her, but needs better equipment. As this is a safety issue, it was agreed that a letter from the community council to the district would be helpful. Mrs. Bramble stated that there had been a commitment from the district, when the bus zone was added, that a “Kubota” would be purchased to help Mrs. Gutke, but then the district was debating using another brand of machinery and it was never purchased. Mrs. Allison will send an email on behalf of the community council.

Mrs. Bramble announced that the school is looking at a behavior support project. This is a team that modifies behavior to train the children on how to behave in various situations. (i.e. assemblies, lunch time, etc.) There is good buy in from the staff for this process.

Our next meeting will be held February 13, 2009 in the Moriningside Library at 1:45 pm.