

School Improvement Team Meeting Minutes for February 4, 2013

Attendance:

	Michael Fuga	Principal
X	Lance Scott	Assistant Principal
X	Diane Moser	Voyagers Teacher
X	Amy Scott	Navigators Teacher
X	Glenn Estacio	Pathfinders Teacher
X	Sarah Jamieson	Pioneers Teacher
X	Michael Bloom	Explorers Teacher
		Dreamseekers Teacher
X	Cassie Abels	EC Teacher
		School Counselor
		Electives Teacher
	Erica Clinton	Classified Staff Rep.

X	Jenny Umbarger	Support Faculty
	Dov Rosenberg	Teacher-At-Large
	Monique Holsey-Hyman	Parent
X	Julie Edmunds	Parent
	Tamara Coyne-Beasley	Parent
X	Francelia Burwell	Parent
X	Ve'ga Swepson	Parent
X	Kim Broadnax	Parent
X	Lauri Brandenburg	Parent Alternate

Others in attendance:

Stephanie Covill—RHMS administrative intern

David Stein— Education Partnership Coordinator, Duke Office of Community Affairs

Beth Spataro—Pathfinders team ELA teacher

Kelly Stevens—Pathfinders team Social Studies teacher

Ann Rebeck—8th grade parent; former SIT chair

Meeting was called to order at 3:16

Welcome and Introductions

Committee members introduced themselves and the agenda was reviewed.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the December meeting were approved as submitted.

Review of ground rules

- Stay on topic
- Listen to each other
- The children of Rogers-Herr are the agenda
- Remember the goals/purpose of the group (improvement of the school)
- Be open to listening to new ideas
- Listen with respect
- Start on time, end on time

Dates for next meetings

Due to Mr. Fuga's class schedule, the committee adjusted the dates for the next two meetings. Remaining meetings will be Tuesday, March 5; Tuesday, April 9; and Monday, May 7. The committee also discussed the possibility of starting at 3pm. Ms. Edmunds will check with the other parents to see if this is an option.

Literacy

Beth Spataro and Kelly Stevens have been identified as literacy leaders for the district and shared information on literacy. Instructional Facilitators (IFs) are responsible for providing literacy instruction at the school on such topics as questioning, vocabulary, and argumentative writing. Teachers are then expected to take these skills/ideas and, with the support of the IF, integrate them into their curriculum. As district literacy leaders, Ms. Spataro and Ms. Stevens are available to work with teachers throughout the district who principals identify as needing additional assistance with implementing literacy skills. A major challenge several teachers have faced this year is that the resources we currently have don't necessarily match the new curriculum. Ms. Stevens and Ms. Spataro shared their success with centers/stations as being one way to move toward more student-led collaborative work.

Defining Rigor

Mr. Fuga and Ms. Edmunds met prior to this meeting to begin discussing our direction for next year based on the feedback from DPI. The three main focus areas for the upcoming year are rigor, formative assessment, and differentiation, and the relationship between these three. During the remaining SIT meetings this year, the committee will spend some time looking at each of these topics so we can help lay groundwork for next year's School Improvement Plan. Ms. Edmunds shared her research information on rigor and the committee discussed ways to ensure all stakeholders have an understanding of rigor. Some suggestions included sharing information during open houses and PTA meetings, and having teams include information about the depth of rigor in each core class throughout the year in their newsletters, etc.

Tour Brochure

Ms. Rebeck shared a copy of the brochure that was created for this year's magnet season as a result of the work the School Improvement Team did last year. The committee discussed including a list of resources/options for families during intersession as well.

Wrap Up and Next Steps

Committee members completed exit ticket on homework in preparation for next meeting's discussion on homework.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:16

Next meeting:

Tuesday, March 5, 3:15-4:15