

# **BULKELEY MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING LEVEL PLANNING TEAM**

MINUTES: January 15, 2008

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melanie Babineau, John Kemnitzer, Nancy Erlanger,  
Jane Hoffman, Lottchen Shivers, Helen Knapp, Matt Grande, Beth Heady

## MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brian Karas, Lisa Lang, Nancy Ebel

## Topics Discussed:

- After School Club Offerings
  - Surveying student interests and needs seems critical before determining what new club should be offered. So, a student survey will assess interest and need. Faculty will be consulted for availability/interest in advisor positions. A named club will occur prior to March.
  - The survey first draft was discussed. Melanie and Matt will type revisions so the survey can be administered by Team Leaders at each Grade Level within the next 10 days.
  - A brief description of each potential club offering will be included with the student survey.
  
- Cultural/Country Program Series will be discussed at a future meeting.
  
- Health/Wellness Day
  - Invitations to presenters will be mailed this week.
  - Melanie, with the assistance of Rita, will assess space & equipment needs.
  - Bonnie Murphy will contact a keynote speaker.
  - Students will be able to select fitness choice.
  - BIC will handle student sign-ups, classroom extensions & invites.
  - Matt & Melanie will arrange “flow” of sessions.

- Recess/playground

This unstructured time has been identified as the leading cause of peer issues and therefore, climactic unrest. The typical lunch period is 20 minutes of eating in the cafeteria, followed by 20 minutes of recess. Recess can be outdoors or in the gym. Mr. Kemnitzer posed the very general goal ‘what can we do to make it better?’ Conversation was open-ended and included comments from Beth who supervises this time; alternative spaces for eating & hanging out; organized activities facilitated by high schoolers; the 3 on 3 basketball tournament organized by the JV Girls team; the unpredictable social responses to activities; the transition from CLS cafeteria to BMS; Mix It Up Day; seating to break up cliques; developing social graces and common courtesy; improving adult-child ratio....

The group agreed that climate is dramatically affected by the interactions that take place during lunch and recess. More conversation about this topic is needed.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 19, 2008  
6:30 p.m. BMS Art Room