

BULKELEY MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING LEVEL PLANNING TEAM

MINUTES: September 18, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melanie Babineau, Matt Grande, John Kemnitzer, Nancy Erlanger, Nancy Ebel, Lisa Lang, Helen Knapp, Jane Hoffman, Lottchen Shivers

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brian Karas, Beth Heady

Topics Discussed:

- Meeting Dates 2007-2008
 - Times and dates for this year's meetings were discussed. The decision was made to begin the meetings at 6:30 instead of 7:00 p.m.
 - Members were informed that the flexibility exists to change meeting dates should several people be unable to attend.

- BMS After-School Academic Support Program
 - Members were asked to review the After-School Program proposal developed this past summer by the BMS Building Instructional Council (BIC).
 - Background information was provided and discussion ensued regarding the role of the parent in the referral process. Teaching teams will seek parent input in a collaborative process when placing students. In addition, students and parents will be required to sign a contract holding the student accountable for attendance, behavior, and effort.
 - It was suggested that, for accountability, parents be required to sign a form should they be offered the opportunity to participate and refuse.
 - It was suggested that all parents be informed of the program once it is approved. However, the fear was expressed that this might result in a large number of requests for participation and while parent requests will be considered, limited numbers will necessitate the need for the school to initiate the referral process.
 - The committee discussed the importance of presenting this program in a positive manner, rather than it being viewed as a punishment and/or creating a negative stigma for those in attendance.
 - It was suggested that the program be expanded should it be successful. Program evaluation was discussed. It was determined that the key to this will be maintaining full attendance, ongoing assessment, and communication.

- The BOE has viewed this proposal once, has had the opportunity to ask and receive answers to questions, and will have the opportunity to address further questions to Mr. Kemnitzer at next Tuesday evening's BOE meeting.
- Health/Wellness Day
 - A brief overview of the history of Health/Wellness Day was offered. The success of Artists in Action Day spurred the creation of two other days on a three year rotation basis. Last year's Career Day was deemed a success and this year's Health/Wellness Day on April 4 will be a first.
 - BIC developed the schedule, made initial contact to community members in an effort to create a pool of presenters. As the year progresses, members of the BLPT will be enlisted to assist in the planning of the day.
 - Beth Graziano will attend the October meeting to discuss potential presenters.
- 2007-2008 Goal Setting
 - BLPT members were asked to consider committee projects for the upcoming year and to come to October's meeting prepared to discuss them.
 - Two potential ideas were briefly discussed: playground/recess and community service. These topics will be discussed further at our next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 16, 6:30 p.m. BMS Art Room