

## **Barton Leadership Council Minutes 9/06/07**

Welcome Back!!!

### **Council Business**

Annual sign up for recorder, providing drinks and composting of dinner items was circulated.

Annual calendar of meetings was reviewed.

- Make special note of a proposed February 27-28<sup>th</sup> date for leadership retreat.
- Somali Parent Information night is Monday Sept. 10. If you are willing to help out watching students, greeting, etc., please let Steve know.

### **Principal's report**

Staff update

- Flory Sommers is our new uppers teacher (Language Arts/Spanish)
- Matt Linman is our new middles teacher (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Heidi Carlson is our new primary teacher (K-1<sup>st</sup> grade)
- Heather Bivens is new media specialist
- Mike Robinson is new band teacher
- Joyce Vanderscheuren is the new literacy coach
- Trish Clarke is the new as Dean of Students
- Sharon Tyree is our new office staff person

Enrollment

- Slightly over at uppers level (~10 kids)
- Slightly under at middles (likely will fill)
- Primary is slightly under and we are trying to get siblings off the wait list

After school program

- Busses would only be available at 4:30-5:00 which is later than we would like. Steve will continue to explore options for earlier times.
- Working with community education to look at a Wednesday tutoring program in October that could be expanded if it works well.

### **District Parent Advisory Council Update (Peggy Clark)**

- Representatives for PAC will be elected Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Harriet meeting.
- Peggy reports that the group made more traction this year than in the past and stayed together over the summer to continue momentum.

- Peggy will send around a pdf file with new interim selection requirements for high school programs. The changes are going to be very significant for Barton families due to attendance areas.
- McKinnsey is doing strategic planning work and is hoping to get to 5-6 key strategies by spring for the district to then flesh out.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- David reviewed the process of the 501.3.c (the council recommends how we spend fund raising money and the board of the foundation approves it). The board is elected by the council.
- David has sought outside advice on auditing and tax returns for the foundation. The recommendation is that we don't need to have an audit but that we should use a different software program to better conform to accounting standards. David will come back with a proposal for the cost to implement this change.

### **Council Budget**

- Item's approved by council for funding to get year started – Teacher classroom fund (\$300 per teacher), Principal's fund (\$1,000), Bugle – postage - office (\$1,200), Technology (initial of \$ 5,000 until Heather gets up to speed), curriculum needs (\$4,000), school directory (\$1,500)
- Will review full budget next meeting. Ideas Steve put out for consideration to add this year – After school program “czar” (~\$6,000 rough estimate), potential funding of conflict mediator if outside funding doesn't come through (up to \$7,500), paying for teacher time to help secure Stern's Foundation grant as demonstration of commitment – like matching dollars but does not require a full 1:1 match (~\$2,000). Another potential idea is to allow the student council to have some money to spend.
- Target foundation has significant money available as grants for field trips.

### **Brainstormed ideas on “Going Green”**

- Promote community events (i.e. world car free day)
- Use reusable trays for school lunch
- Compost school lunch scraps
  - o Needs committed volunteers, monitor end results, buy in from teachers.
  - o Research food waste issues / make sure this doesn't derail other options.
- Connect with neighborhood association
- Results published in Bugle (i.e. number of trees saved)
- Blend in with curriculum
  - o Figure out carbon footprint of school

- Talk up at all school meetings to create “spark”
- Have a green “Czar”
- Plan reflects stages
- Nell Sorenson’s tool kit
- Internet resources
- Student council led efforts
- Look to Wal-Mart / Target for grants.
- Connect with General Mills about a solution for less waste at breakfast
- Safe routes to school – bike / walk
- Create visual element to show impacts (school bus emissions in garbage bags in commons)
- Document how much paper is saved through used book sale.

Mark, Jennifer, Karen, Tom volunteered to help Steve R. Others might be interested.