

Leadership Council Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2007

Principal's Report

CALT waiver letter: Steve sent the revised letter around to have council members sign. The letter will be available if the district asks for documentation on why we didn't administer the CALT tests this year.

All school morning meetings are new to Barton this year and seem to be building community in the school. They start at 7:35 AM and last about 15 minutes. We have shared art work, uppers hip-hop dance, student council business, and singing led by Dawn White.

Rug Raffle: Anne Sterner reported that we have over \$3,000 in ticket sales so far. We are set for volunteers. Julie has secured a large raffle bucket from the VFW.

On December 11th we're getting 35 new computers. The new computers are to replace teachers' classroom computers.

Steve had a visit from our new Area C Superintendent, Marianne Norris on Thursday morning. Marianne visited almost every class in the school and was very positive about the program. In the new strategic plan, schools that are successful will be labeled as autonomous and Marianne indicated that we would be a good model for that. Steve was also very impressed what the teachers were doing during the walkabout.

Parent Advisory Update

Peggy Clark went to a Strategic Planning with Latinos. Start times was an agenda topic at the Board meeting. Start times will be a difficult thing to change.

Class size: For the Northside Initiative they have guaranteed a smaller class size. We will keep the 26, 32 & 34 class size for other schools.

Treasurer's Report

David Curle gave a brief report on the budget. See Treasurer's Oct. 2007 report.

Retreat Planning

We brainstormed agenda topics for the Leadership Retreat and then prioritized the topics by "spending five dots." The list of topics we generated is as follows:

Greatest cognitive growth occurs thru social interactions. Principles of learning, socializing for intelligence

Social intelligence – Daniel Coleman.

Do we want to be an accredited Responsive Classroom school? Do reflections on where we are and where we would need to go.

Open School 102. Think about our status as an Open School and what do we need to do to keep that status.

Parent perspectives on Open Education.

Homework follow up.

Self governing school.

Be clear about how we market ourselves as an open school to perspective parents.

Ways to make social interaction happen in classes of 32, perhaps w/small groups and maybe parent volunteers.

What are we doing with our most school dependent students? Continue our focus on these kids.

Building or expanding on multi-age learning, family grouping for kids.

Book reading – staff, staff/parent, staff/council.

Increase diversity. How could we get more diverse communities in our school?