

West Broad Street School
SBIT Minutes
September 27, 2005

The first WBSS SBIT meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on September 27th. The Team meets each month on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the Library /Media Center. Returning members Carolyn Goodrich, our parent representative, Emily Noyes, our teacher representative and Terry Jordan, Principal were in attendance. The Team welcomed new member, Doretta Colburn, who is joining the Team as the Board of Education's representative.

The following topics were topics of discussion:

- First Day of School Celebration: 102 parents attended. Discussion was held on the day's schedule and the format of the workshops offered to parents. Changes that might be beneficial in the future were discussed. It was decided to propose moving the First Day Celebration to the a.m. next year and to begin planning for it in the spring. The time would have to be coordinated with the other schools.
- The summer reading program: Mrs. Noyes reported that the only draw-back to having the "Book Chats" with students on the First Day was that some students forgot to bring their assigned reading book to school with them. The Team discussed that was a problem that could be addressed prior to next year. The Team felt that it was worthwhile to send the books home with the students on the last day of school as assigned summer reading.
- Parental Involvement Compacts: Mrs. Jordan reported that 93% of the Compacts have been signed and returned. Mrs. Jordan will make personal contact with families who have not returned them. The Team discussed ways to encourage families to attend our evening programs.
- Academic Support Services Parent Meeting: The Team discussed the scheduling of a meeting for parents by the beginning of November to explain the services that are available to students. Parents of children who participate in our programs will receive invitations to attend. The meeting will be announced and is open to anyone interested in attending.
- Evening and daytime curricular events: The Team discussed what events we could hold this year for parents. Two ideas discussed included: a general curriculum night that presented an overview of each grade-level curriculum and math events that furthered parent understanding of the Connecticut Mastery Tests and our Investigations Program.
- Mrs. Goodrich praised the letters that were sent home by classroom teachers explaining the first math unit. She reported that it was very helpful and informative.
- The parent Book Chat Group : The group has set a goal of reading and discussing four books this year. The first book that the group will read is And Words Can Hurt Forever by Dr. James Garbarino. The first book has been funded by Parental Involvement grant money provided to the school by Mrs. Albert. The Team also discussed having "Literature Circles" for parents and their children. An idea the Team will consider further.

- Community Building at WBSS: Mrs. Noyes and Mrs. Jordan explained to members the Community Building initiative taking place in the school and its goal of increasing responsible behavior and helping students to understand the relationship between their behavior, the choices they make and their academic achievement. They explained that parents would be learning more about this initiative as the year progresses.
- SBIT Goals: Mrs. Goodrich suggested that the Team consider adding an SBIT goal that would cause the relationship between home and school to be reciprocal. She suggested that we discuss ways that parents could be more actively involved in planning or in providing support to the academic programs of the school. The Team will discuss this further at the October meeting.
- Mrs. Goodrich also suggested that the Team discuss how to help parents understand the validity of and the importance of the Connecticut Mastery Tests for their children.
- The SBIT Handbook was distributed so that members could review it prior to a discussion of it at the October meeting.
- It was decided that SBIT minutes from each of the district's schools would be e-mailed each month to Team members.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The Team's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the Library Media Center. The change of time is to accommodate parents and teachers who have parent conferences that day.

SBIT Meeting Agenda October 25, 2005

- Discussion Items:
 - ⇒ SBIT Handbook
 - ⇒ 2006-2007 Budget – Staffing
 - ⇒ SBIT Goals
 - ⇒ Establishing a Calendar for Parent Involvement Activities
 - ⇒ Connecticut State Department of Education/Child/Family/School Partnership Workshops
 - ⇒ Other topics brought forward by Team Members
- Decision Items
 - ⇒ Adoption of SBIT Handbook
 - ⇒ Adoption of 2005-2006 SBIT Goals
 - ⇒ Calendar of Parental Involvement Events