

SBIT Meeting: 11/29/05

Members in attendance:

Terry Jordan, Carolyn Goodrich, Gail MacDonald, Claudia Albert, Emily Noyes

1. Introduction of new board member: Gail MacDonald
2. Reviewing/Approving minutes from the October Meeting.
3. Mrs. MacDonald asked for clarification on students receiving academic support vs. students identified as special education
 - o WBSS has 29 students receiving academic support in reading fluency
 - o We are "blurring the lines" between these two populations of students to give them what they need academically
4. Academic Support Parent Night was very successful. Every family replied that they were planning to come, and all families but one attended. SUCCESS! ☺
5. Possible opportunity for a parent leadership training program offered by the Center for School Change and CT Commission on Children. It is a pilot program called "PARENTS SEE". 3-hour, 12-week course. Mrs. MacDonald will let Mr. McKee know that our SBIT would like him to contact the Center to make them aware of our interest for next year's training opportunity for parents.
6. Mrs. Goodrich reported that she was contacted by some parents via email about CMT's and the difference in scores between the two middle schools.
7. Wondered about how we are monitoring student progress other than CMT scores. Discussion had about the Literacy Assessment Calendar and district assessments used formatively to monitor student progress.
8. The WBSS Instructional Improvement Plan was reviewed and discussed.

- o Flex time will be starting on December 6th on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday starting with 4th grade students
 - o Mrs. MacDonald asked about the possibility of students "fooling us" with their apparent ability to read when they actually cannot. We discussed the many assessments that we have available that prevent that.
 - o Discussed the effort-achievement rubric that we are planning on implementing. Students will set goals, review their own work and plot their own progress in hopes of motivating reluctant learners
 - o Discussed outside pressures and stresses on students and whether they can separate this from their school life to be successful using the effort/achievement rubric
 - o Reviewed "It's Up to Me" and Community Agreement to inform our new member of the program
9. Week of February 6th-10th as a possible Parent Math Activity similar to last year when parents came into classrooms to participate in the lesson with their children. This will follow the district wide math night.
 10. Book Chat scheduled for December 12th. And Words can Hurt Forever. Eighteen books have been handed out to interested parents. The group will decide on their next book for a possible March group.
 11. CMT parent information group: Idea of giving parents a "mock" CMT test so they will experience it -- Reading, Writing and Math. Possibly schedule for the week before or after vacation (Feb.) prior to the administration of the CMT's.
 12. Continued the conversation for a Publishing Center. What will this look like? To what extent will parents be involved?

13. Possibility of Enrichment given by parents discussed briefly. The SBIT decided to focus on getting a Publishing Center established.
14. Do parent volunteers need to be fingerprinted to work with students in the school? Claudia is checking on this.
15. Discussed typewriting and helping students to become more proficient on the computer with keyboarding. How can we do this? Can parents help with this?