

Pawcatuck Middle School  
SBIT  
Minutes of Meeting  
September 21, 2006

In attendance: C. Albert, D. Beverly, R. Cary, D. Cawley, L. George, J. Giulini, C. Goodrich

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

## REPORTS

Mrs. Giulini presented the Principal's Report. She noted that the school year began smoothly. First Day activities included a Welcome Back assembly and an orientation meeting for parents of incoming students. This was the second opportunity for parents and guardians to meet for an informative discussion about PMS. Parents were invited to return for lunch with their children. About 50 participated this year.

Mr. Cary reported that Clint Kennedy is trying to preserve information about school activities and present it to the public. One example is the podcasting of field trips for the district web site. He noted that Mr. Kennedy is willing to teach everyone to use current technology for the same purpose.

Mrs. Albert announced that the Board of Education will be announcing that 1 Principal will be retiring and 1 will be going out on medical leave. Additional SBIT meetings will be held at WBSS and WVSS to discuss this.

It was decided that 2006-07 SBIT meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month. The one exception will be in January when the meeting will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.

Mrs. Goodrich voiced concern with the size of classes in grade 5. The 3 sections are made up of 26, 26 and 27 students. It was noted that the class size is related to the budget reductions. Class sizes reflect the projected class sizes for grade 5 in 2006-07.

## OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. George led a discussion of past Parents as Partners Nights. It was noted that it would be important to enlist parents in learning-related activities, ask about parents' skills, and link activities to raising expectations. Mrs. Albert suggested a "reach out" theme to focus on careers early in the year and connect activities with writing and reading.

## NEW BUSINESS

Lori George led a discussion of possible topics for mini-presentations, such as inquiry-based learning.

October 25 was selected as the date for the Parents as Partners Night. The meeting will be held from 7:00-8:00 PM in the school cafeteria. Mrs. Giulini will look into changing an event already slated for that night to another date.

Mrs. Albert suggested the possibility of having morning or afternoon workshops for parents during the year. This has been successful at WBSS. We will ask parents if they would prefer meetings from 9-10:00 AM to the traditional evening meeting times.

It was decided that we ask Clint Kennedy to do a 20-minute presentation about educational changes in using technology. The topic, then, would become Technology Supporting Parents Supporting Their Kids.

The remainder of the 1- hour parent meeting will be devoted to the PMS trivia game. Results of the game will segue into meetings during the year.

The next meeting of the SBIT will be held on October 2, at 7:00 PM. Focus of the meeting will be to further plan the Parents as Partners Night.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.