

Deans Mill SBIT
October 15, 2007

Meeting called to order at 4:35.

Attending: Rob Marseglia (Chairing/Parent), Jennifer Middleton (Secretary/Parent), Kelly Spooner (Principal), Ann Hogsten (Ass't Principal), Tracy O'Lari (K), Faith MacDonald (1), Gail McLeod (2), Ali Dietz (3), Megan Brown (4), Pam Young (Specialist, attending for Sherry Castodio), Robin Bressette (Special Ed), Ruth Walsh (Community Representative), Faith Leitner (Parent), Lisa Switz (Parent), and Ann Gestrich (Parent). 2 visitors

Minutes approved as amended to reflect the correct representatives to the other SBITs.

New members were welcomed. Election of officers was deferred to allow for more parent members to arrive.

Proposed Goals

Centers of Excellence

Overview: DMS is working on extensions outside DMS. Basically, connections within the learning environment here, to outside. Not just locally, but one teacher has connections w/ partnership school in Belize. Starts out with Question stems related to learning. This was the focus of SBIT last year, in support of the SPS Strategic Plan.

Another example is a connection to Groton and reading. Circle of friends focuses on cultural diversity and writing. Connect to writing, setting for narrative story, incorporating your own ideas. Students correspond w/ buddy school through pen pals.

2nd grade is developing a partnership w/ Terra Firma Farm. Using strands in science curriculum to make those connections. Field trips this week. Concepts to be explored start with nutrition, plant & animal food sources. Later on in year get into soil, different types of soil, what is best for planting. Different cultures and different foods that they grow. How to develop a well balanced meal. Will include visits from Brie (from TFF) into the classroom, and tie those lessons and w/ trips to farm. As we start working on this may decide to add more visits. Just getting started on it this year. One second grade class doing Authors and Amigos through LEARN instead. May discuss different partnerships. Offer a choice for the future. Enabling our students to increase awareness of different cultures and communities while extending curriculum.

Rob: is there something our team can do meaningfully to help?

Kelly: SBIT helped build awareness time, most of us already doing good points of practice. Built awareness. Are there other possibilities/avenues? Opened up dialog, is there something else we can do?

Would be nice to know about WV/WB doing? Project Learn used to offer to K? Are there other avenues? TFF itself has found a grant to support this.

As with everything bottom line. Grant options.

Community outreach ... Aquarium, etc.

Some grants better if two going in together with another organization?

DMS Computer Program

Goal is to bring technology to school. Kelly presented a proposal she put together for a Smart Board & Technical Cadre teams. Pricing, including. ½ day, one rep from each team. Need to make time for teachers. Depending on

the aspect of during grade level time, monthly meetings, cadre reps to break out and share. It's only as good as the opportunity to filter throughout the teams. King of tech on that team. One team (first grade) is already talking about it. One teacher already advanced, getting different person. Can't have people who are hesitant to do this. Must be someone who wants to learn. Robin: get one person on a team comfortable. Even if expert will filter down. Told team about it, 1st grade all loved it. When are we going to have the time to learn it all together? Kelly: If this is a priority, then the time will be made.

One thing want to clarify, technology is not another layer, embedded within. If doing unit in Geometry. Not an add-on. Teachers are concerned about how to get it all done, but if they naturally see how it connects to the instruction, it becomes exciting because new learning but not added something on. Some people who are not comfortable will still find it difficult, but the Technical Cadre Teams can help.

Kelly is going to review proposal with Clint Kennedy.

Motion for 2007-2008 Goal: SBIT will take on Technology proposal as goal and do some research for next SBIT meeting for funding options. Unanimously passed. Can we start in Nov? SEF, but apple only \$500. Anna Greene. Paul Sartor president. Like things. Get funding for training.

Motion for 2007-2008 Goal by Lisa Switz: SBIT will look for opportunities for grants to improve teaching & learning at DMS. Seconded and unanimously passed.

ACES Program

ACEs program is moving to Winter timeframe as it was originally done, to enable more parents to participate so that it is not just outside organizations. Ruth will look for support for ACEs at StoneRidge.

Election of Officers:

Jennifer Middleton elected as Secretary.

Rob Marseglia and Kelly Spooner elected as Co-Chairs

Meeting adjourned at 5:35

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Middleton, CISSP
Secretary