SALMON BAY Building Leadership Team (BLT) Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 24, 2015 - Principal's Office

Agenda: Minutes, Next Steps Budget

In attendance:

Administrator: Neil Gerrans Office Rep: Caitlin Racey

IA Rep: Nancy Gruber Library/Specialist: Linda Illman/absent

Nurse/Counseling Rep: Markos Weiss K/1 Team: Amy Gross

2/3-Team: Dave Middleton 4/5 Team: Brian Williamson

6th Team: Katie Hayes * Olympics (7/8th): Connie Gold/absent

Cascades (7/8th): Jeff Callahan Parent Rep: AJ Silva

Parent Rep: Jeannie Cziesla Asst. Principal: Darren Frink

*Acting Chairperson

1) MINUTES: from 3/17/15 and 3/19/15 not quite ready yet, will be approved via email then distributed.

2) BUDGET:

Neil reported that we have achieved consensus on a budget so Neil can submit it to SPS today. Now, we move on to scheduling and putting our dollars to work as outlined in our budget. As a first step, certificated staff present at the meeting each signed a stipend waver sheet.

Special Ed update: Neil reported that the newest allocation from the District gives us 6.0 FTE SpEd teachers and 9.0 SpEd IAs for the upcoming year, but he feels this teacher allocation will likely go up to 7.0 teachers when all the student numbers are in. The number of IA's in the building will likely stay the same as this year, though the distribution will change with the addition or loss of SpEd enrollment/programs. Basically, this means that we will likely lose one SpEd teacher next year, if enrollment assigned students/planned programs don't change significantly. The numbers are still in flux; we'll find out more finalized numbers in April.

Table Whip Around –Brian reported that the salmon on the 2nd floor are growing and healthy. They will be ready for release next month. Katie mentioned that the annual Seattle Public Library/Biography Project kick-off field trip went well. Connie reported that we started career week this week with the 7th/8th graders, and we're really looking forward to it. Caitlin added that the Auction Committee met last week and wants staff to know they can all attend at nocharge. The committee would love to have BLT members encourage their teammates to come to the festivities! Since the event is on a super busy weekend (Passover, and the night before Easter), we know some folks will have a conflict, but would still love to have as many people attend as possible. We chatted about a few ways folks who can't make it, could participate in the auction fun 'in absentia'. Jeff asked a question about 'next steps' for creating next year's schedule, which segued us to our next agenda item...

3) 2015/16 Scheduling: We have some volunteers for our scheduling sub-committee, so we will get started on that right away. It would be great to do a longer meeting (regular staff meeting combined with an early release?) to do this work, but we also need to do SBAC trainings and a few other important things in the upcoming weeks/months, too. In addition to creating a master schedule, we will need to carve out some planning time for: May/June end of year activities, PD planning for next year, finish By-Laws, CPI Training arrangements, Exploratory interests/options.

Exploratory classes will likely be spread throughout the day, with several student options each period. Knowing that most student stamina wanes as the day progresses, last periods of the day will likely not be used for remedial intervention classes. There seemed to be general support/interest in creating a middle school schedule that mixed 6/7/8 grades more next year. Jeannie asked about start of day/end of day bell times for next year. The group chatted about the wide range of possibilities that might bring our bell times into alignment with other elementary schools. Ideas to make the shorter contact day work included: added recess, earlier dismissal for K-5 combined with a recess option, late arrival/early dismissal for K-5, etc. Lots to consider.

As we head more deeply into scheduling for next year, there are also lots of possibilities we can consider: maintain blocks? Straight grade options? Coordinating an elementary schedule that could include some Walk to Math? And more....

May 20th was the date proposed for the extended BLT 'pre-retreat' conversation (3:30-7:00).

Submitted by Nancy Gruber, approved 4/7/14