

SAINT MEETING
November 19, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Those present were: Elizabeth Servello, Jeff DiRenzo, Kathy Sheehan, Barbara Rothman, Susan Helldorfer, Sue Venendaal, Rachel Feddersen, Ruth McDonagh and Rachel Feddersen.

The minutes of the last meeting were amended and approved.

Mr. DiRenzo started the meeting with information on school discipline. There have only been 11 BMC referrals thus far this year. The staff has been working with children that are having behavior problems by implementing a mentor program where a staff member checks with the child at the beginning and end of the day. That seems to be going well. There are also several behavior plans in place. Mr. DiRenzo also discussed attendance. We are still above 95% at each grade level, but we are addressing any attendance issues that teachers are noticing. We have about 10 students that are being closely monitored. Mrs. Servello informed the group that Dr. Martirano pointed out the direct correlation between attendance and the drop out rate.

Mrs. Helldorfer discussed reading and math interventions being done by herself and Mrs. Varner are each doing both intervention and enrichment groups with students at all grade levels. All seem to be going well.

Mr. Pendarvis is our representative for CACSE but was unable to be at the meeting. He said there was nothing new to pass on, but wanted to remind all that their next meeting would be January 10, 2010. This meeting is entitled Building Bridges. It will start at 4:30 with light refreshments and the presentation beginning at 6:00.

Mrs. Servello spoke for Mrs. Branaman, our school nurse, who was at a Crisis Meeting. She is in her new location in the school and enjoying it. Mrs. Servello informed the group that 165 students were immunized for H1N1. Even though 4th and 5th grade students are supposed to receive boosters, at this point, there is no serum available. The Fluoride Rinse program is ongoing with 201 students out of 261 in grades 2-5 participating. Mrs. Branaman is looking at injuries that take place at recess, trying to identify root cause so that we can prevent some of them.

Mr. DiRenzo discussed our after school programs. Readers as Leaders is a program that includes 20 fourth and fifth grade students working with students from Great Mills High School. The students are working on a reading program, using a computer program (Study Island) and having a little time for snacks and time for homework. The FLOW Mentoring program is also up and going after school on Wednesdays, and is going very well. Mrs. Servello told the group that we have received a grant for another after school program that will be starting in the January timeframe. She is looking for suggestions on ways to run this program since she has more flexibility with this grant. She wants to motivate children and spark their interest in the areas of math, reading, science and technology. More to come....

Fundraisers were discussed: Mrs. Owen informed the group that the Book Fair had done very well, providing our school with some products and about the same amount of money we made last year. Mrs. DiRenzo said that candy sales produced about \$4,500! Next year, we will be looking at

having this fundraiser at a time when we are not asking our parents to put out as much money for other things, such as school supplies, pictures, and other things.

Mrs. Servello announced also that after the holidays, we would be having academic family nights in the areas of literacy, math, and possibly science and social studies. Miss Warner may also be having her family PE night.

On a last night, Mrs. Servello told the group that we have been fortunate enough to have student teachers with us and will continue to off and on for the rest of the year. They have been wonderful and we have benefitted greatly from their time with us. They are doing a great job working with our students and supporting our school community.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m. The next meeting will be on February 18, 2010 with refreshments provided by members of the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sheehan, SAINT Secretary